The HISTORY *&* ARCHITECTURE *of*
LEE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

J. DANIEL PEZZONI

The History *&* Architecture *of* Lee County, North Carolina

J. DANIEL PEZZONI

The History & Architecture of Lee County, North Carolina culminates years of work by the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc., toward the documentation and preservation of Lee County's heritage. This richly illustrated volume presents the first comprehensive account of the county's history and architecture, from the arrival of the first Europeans and Africans in the 1700s up to the present. Lee County's important industrial legacy is highlighted: the Revolutionary War–era Willcox Iron Works; the Egypt/Cumnock mine, the focus of North Carolina's principal coal field; and the brownstone quarries and brick plants that contributed to the building of cities throughout the nation. Also addressed are the products of the county's fields and forests—cotton, tobacco, naval stores, and lumber—and the growth of Sanford, Jonesboro, Broadway, and Lemon Springs. Most important, this book describes the lives and accomplishments of a diverse and resourceful people, the farmers, merchants, and working men and women who laid the groundwork for the community of today.

The story of the county's development is also told through its architecture. The earliest log and frame houses reflect the conditions of backcountry society. Transportation improvements during the mid-1800s stimulated the economy, resulting in the construction of many fine Greek

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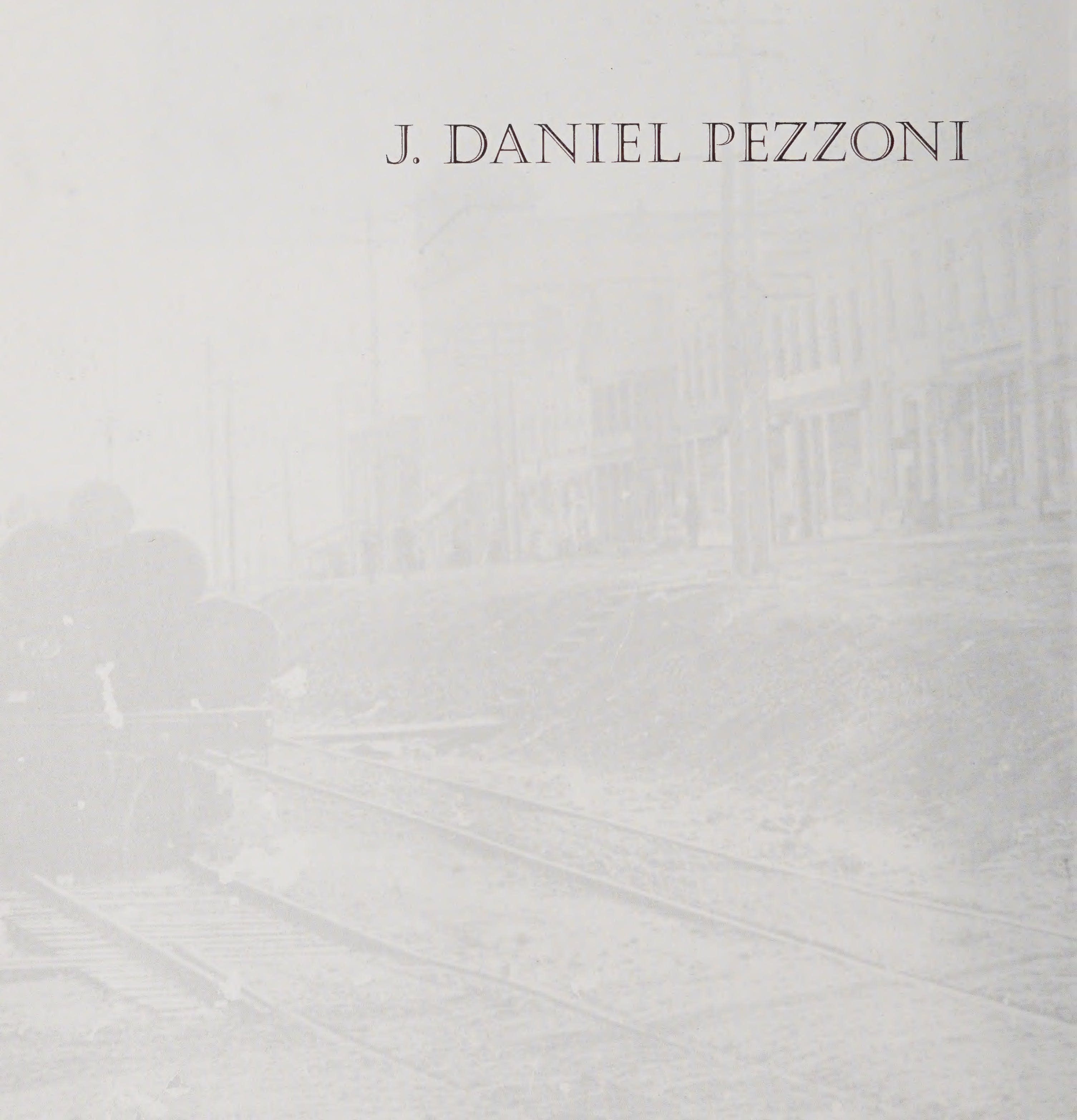

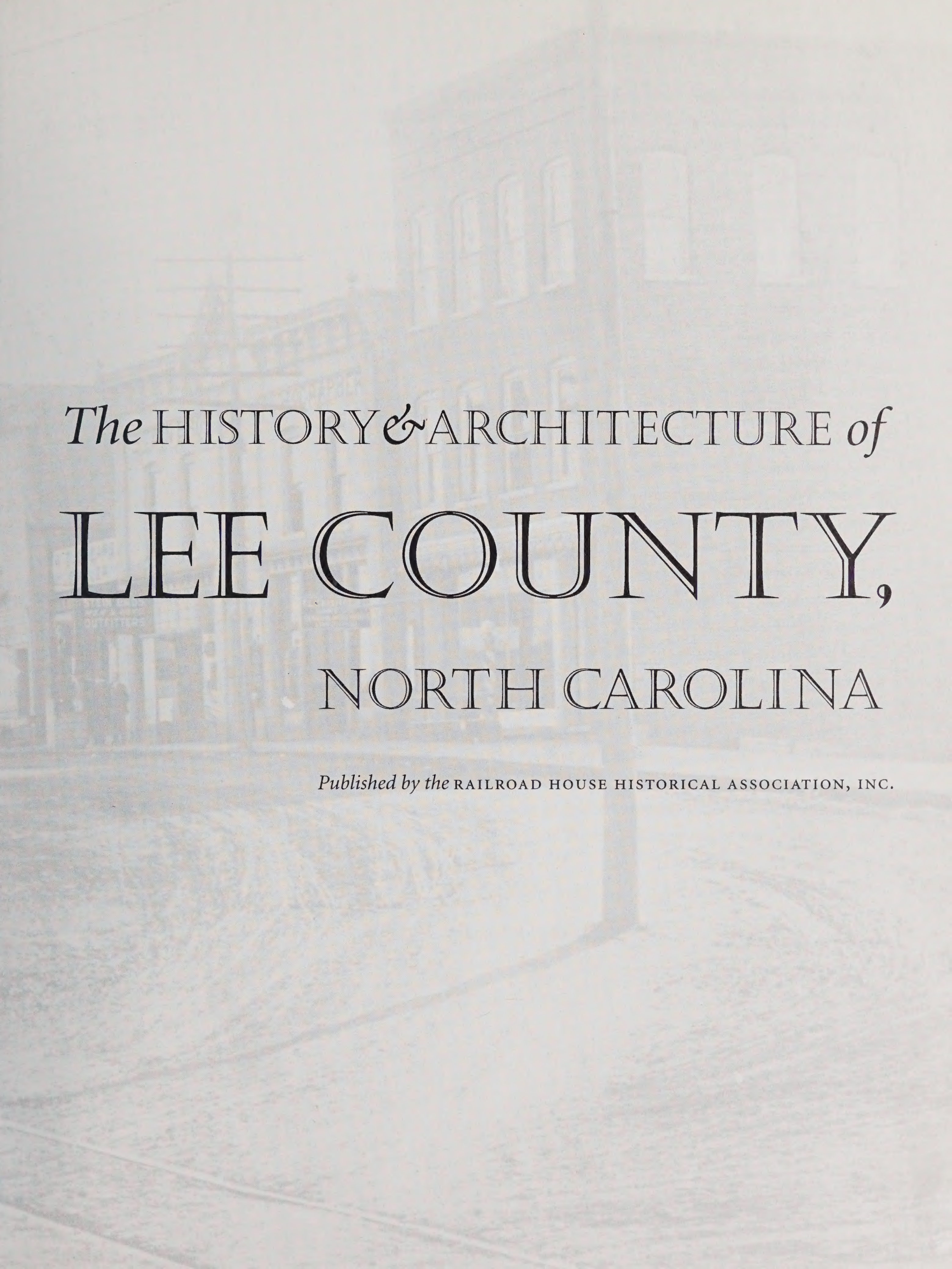

The HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE of
LEE COUNTY,
NORTH CAROLINA

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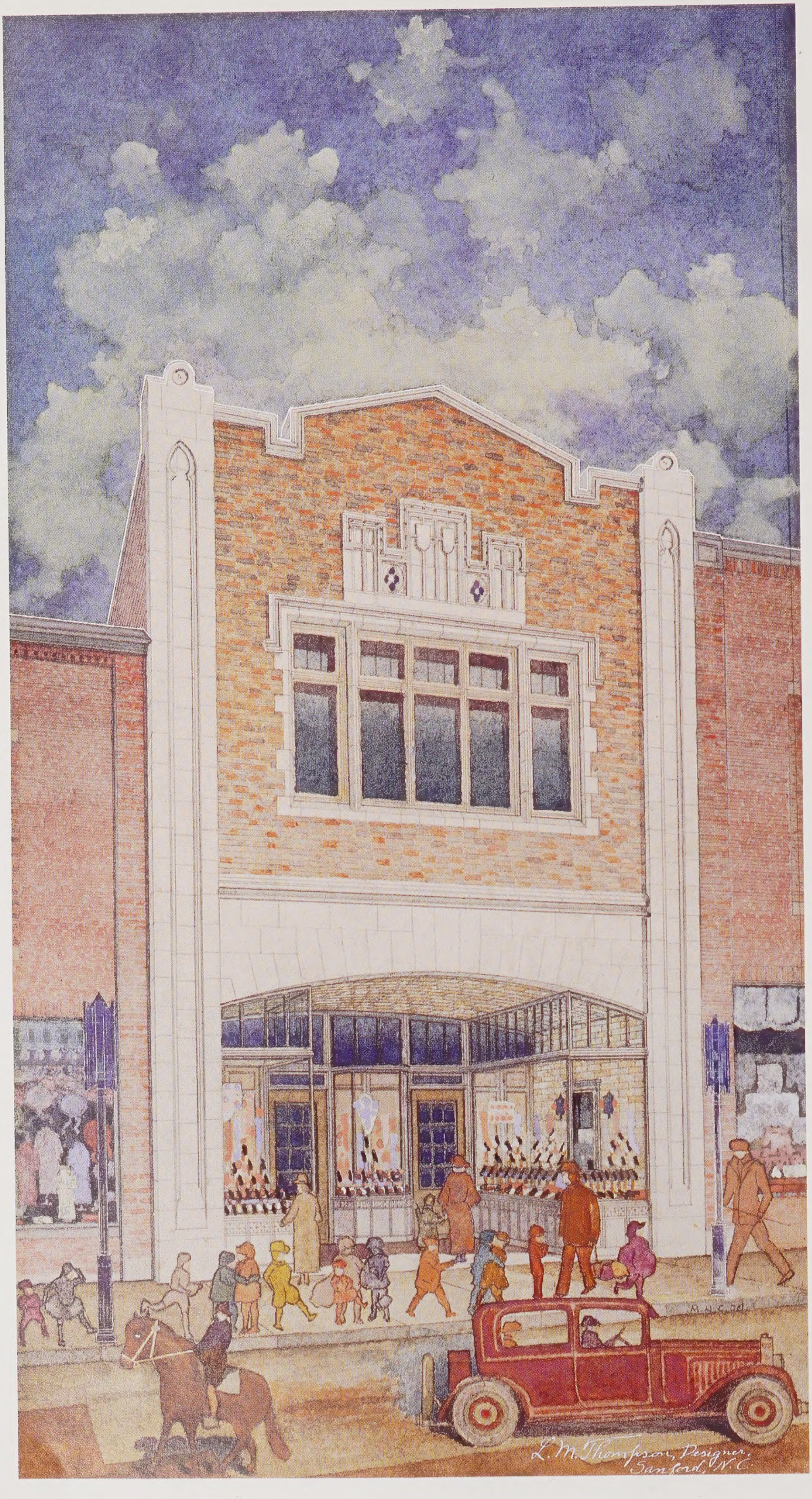
The Old Railroad House – Sanford, N.C.
Jerry Miller

Railroad House (1872), 110 Charlotte Avenue, Sanford (Courtesy of the artist, Jerry Miller)



Stroud-Hubbard Building (1928), period watercolor rendering by the architect, L. M. Thompson (Courtesy of Edwin A. Hubbard)

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Last but not least, the people of Lee County are owed a special thank-you for opening their homes, farms, and businesses to the author, for sharing family traditions and local lore, and for devoting themselves heart and soul to the success of a book that tells their story.

J. Daniel Pezzoni

INTRODUCTION

Lee County is brand new by North Carolina standards. There are residents of the county today (1995) who can recall its contentious birth in 1907. Although it is young as a political entity, the county is old in historical terms. Individuals of European and African descent first settled the land that makes up the county in the mid-1700s; before that, for many thousands of years, the area was home to Native American hunters and farmers.

Throughout its history, Lee County has made important contributions to the course of events and material development of its region, state, and nation. During the American Revolution, the Willcox Iron Works provided North Carolina with essential iron goods during a critical period in the state's history. The Endor Iron Furnace and the Egypt coal mine figured prominently in the Confederate war effort a century later. From the 1850s to the 1920s, Egypt (later known as Cumnock) was the locus of the foremost mining operation in the state's principal coal reserve, the Deep River Coal Field. Brownstone quarries established at Sanford in the 1890s and the brick industry that developed at Colon beginning in the 1920s contributed to the growth of cities throughout the nation.

This is the story of Lee County's remarkable history and of the people who made the history happen: cotton and tobacco farmers, coal miners and stonecutters, schoolteachers, millworkers, storekeepers, and many others. This is also the story of the houses, farms, and towns that form the tangible evidence of the county's history, a rich architectural legacy that connects the county's present to its past.

The History and Architecture of Lee County, North Carolina culminates years of work by the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc., local government, and the private sector toward the documentation and preservation of Lee County's heritage. Since its inception in 1962, the mission of the Railroad House Historical Association has been the preservation of Lee County's historical documents, artifacts, and buildings and the promotion of an appreciation for the county's history and culture. In 1991, the Railroad House Historical Association allocated its own funds, a grant from the North Carolina Division of Archives and History, and matching funds from the County of Lee and the City of Sanford to conduct a countywide survey of historic resources. J. Daniel Pezzoni was hired to conduct the survey, which was completed in the summer of 1992. The survey results were bound by the Friends of Lee County Library and placed in the Suzanne Reeves Library of the Lee County Library System. In late 1993, planning began for a publication that would make available to the general public the findings of the 1991–92 survey.

The result is this book: the first comprehensive account of Lee County's history and architecture. The book makes no claim to be the definitive history of the county, nor is it a pictorial history. Of the wealth of visual material relating to the county, only historic photographs and illustrations that relate directly to subjects discussed in the text are used. Rather, it is a brief overview, in words and pictures, intended to foster appreciation for the county's history and architectural heritage.

The main body of the book comprises two sections: a historical essay and a catalogue of historic properties. The historical essay takes an inclusive approach to the county's history; many aspects of the county's social, cultural, and economic development are addressed. Certain topics—the Egypt/Cumnock coal mine, the Sanford brownstone industry, and the Colon brick plants, for example—receive extensive coverage, because of their significance to historical and especially architectural developments outside the county.

The historical essay is divided into five chapters that correspond to broad periods in the county's history. The first chapter extends from the initial European and African settlement in the mid-1700s through 1849, embracing the early development of the county. The second chapter covers the period from 1850 to 1871 and focuses on the profound economic changes that resulted from the transportation improvements of the period. The third chapter extends from 1872 to 1906, years during which the county's towns grew into important commercial and industrial centers. The fourth chapter begins with the creation of Lee County in 1907 and encompasses historical developments through 1940, the eve of the Second World War. The fifth and final chapter outlines the recent history of the county, from 1941 to the present.

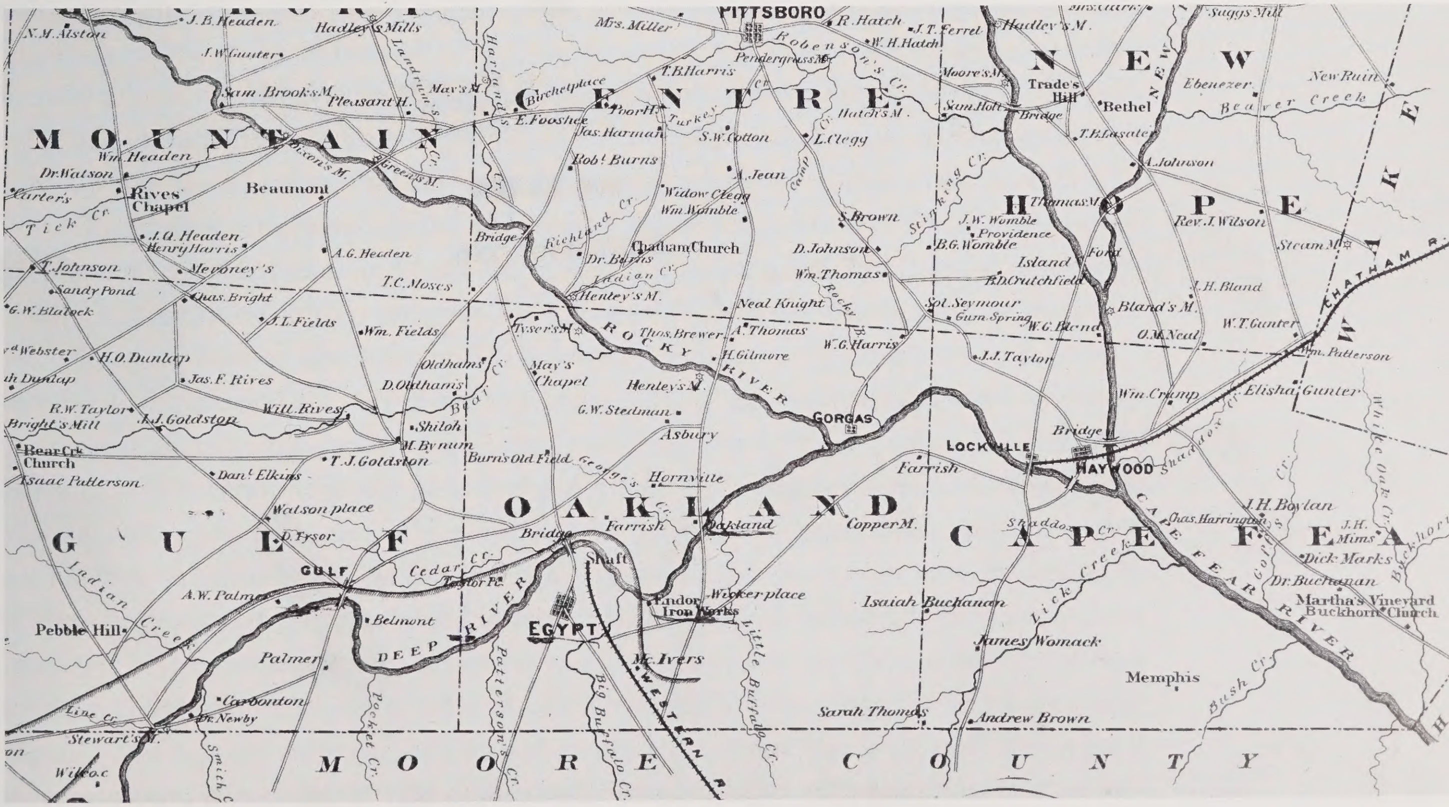
Several themes recur throughout the historical essay. The settlement of the county, for example, is treated not as a one-time event but rather as the product of successive peoplings that began before recorded history and continue to the present. Many ethnic groups—Native Americans, Highland Scots, Africans, Hispanics—have contributed to the course of the county's history and have helped to shape its landscape. More diverse groups, such as the Piedmont tobacco farmers, transformed cut-over woodlands into productive farms during the 1910s and 1920s. Another theme is the fundamental importance of transportation to the county's development, from the early lifelines of the rivers, through the mid-nineteenth-century navigation works, plank roads, and railroads that reinvigorated the local economy, and on to the twentieth century, when a network of railways and highways sustained a nationally prominent brick industry and a host of other enterprises. Transportation improvements fostered greater dependence on the outside world in cultural as well as economic terms, moving each generation farther from localism toward integration into the national mainstream. The county's architectural development reflected this trend, as the hand-crafted and vernacular forms of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries were replaced over time by the machine-made and eclectic products of the present era. If there is a single underlying premise to the historical essay, it is that Lee County's history and its architecture are profoundly interrelated. The architecture arose from historical circumstance; all aspects of the modified landscape from houses and street patterns to cemeteries and pecan groves provide us with clues to understanding the county's history.

The historical essay is followed by a catalogue of 161 historic properties and groups of properties. Catalogue properties were selected according to several criteria, among them age, architectural character, historical associations, degree of historic documentation, and state of preservation. Among the featured properties are early houses such as the Tyson and Palmer properties, as well as relatively recent works of architecture such as the modernistic Sanford Armory (McIver Street) and the second Lewis D. Isenhour House. Also featured are farm complexes, churches, schools, commercial buildings, and industrial plants. Geographic distribution was an important factor in the choice of properties; buildings from every corner of the county are represented. Only properties for which visible physical remains existed as of 1994 were selected. Cemeteries, although they are of historical and cultural value, are discussed in the historical essay rather than in the catalogue.

The catalogue displays the variety of Lee County's historic properties, but by no means is it a complete roll call. If a historic property is not featured, the omission should not be interpreted as meaning the property is insignificant. The 1991–92 architectural survey, on which the catalogue is based, documented over eight hundred historically significant properties and identified the existence of perhaps a thousand more pre–World War II properties. Information on these sites (copies of site forms and maps showing site locations) is available at the Suzanne Reeves Library of the Lee County Library System, 107 Hawkins Avenue, Sanford. Additional information is located at the Survey and Planning Branch of the Division of Archives and History in Raleigh.

Like the historical essay, the catalogue is organized in roughly chronological order. The heading of each catalogue entry lists the historic and/or common name of the property, its location, and its known or estimated date of construction. Historic property names usually reflect the name of the individual(s) responsible for the earliest surviving architectural fabric on the property and sometimes include the name of a significant later owner and/or modifier of the property (in which case the property name is hyphenated). Location information is self-explanatory, with one exception: Jonesboro appears as the location of several sites, even though the community is now technically a part of the City of Sanford.

Because exact construction dates are often difficult to determine, the catalogue entries make frequent use of the term "circa" (a Latin word meaning "about" or "approximately," abbreviated as "ca."). Most "circa" dates are based on a combination of documentary records and oral accounts (deeds, newspaper articles, family histories, etc.) and architectural evidence. In most cases, dates refer to the earliest known year or period of construction; many properties continued to evolve after the initial date. Several buildings incorporate architectural fabric that is much older than the date cited in the entry heading, although the general appearance of these



The northern third of Lee County in 1870, as portrayed on N. A. Ramsey's map of Chatham County. The Lee County area is to the south of the Deep and Cape Fear rivers. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History) hybrid buildings owes more to the cited date. Dating is generally conservative; if it appears that a building could have been built at any time during a given period, the building is generally dated to the end of the period. The current (March 1995) owners of most houses and some nonresidential properties are listed at the end of the entries. Ownership information was compiled by correspondence from owners. Sources of information appear in abbreviated form at the end of the entries.

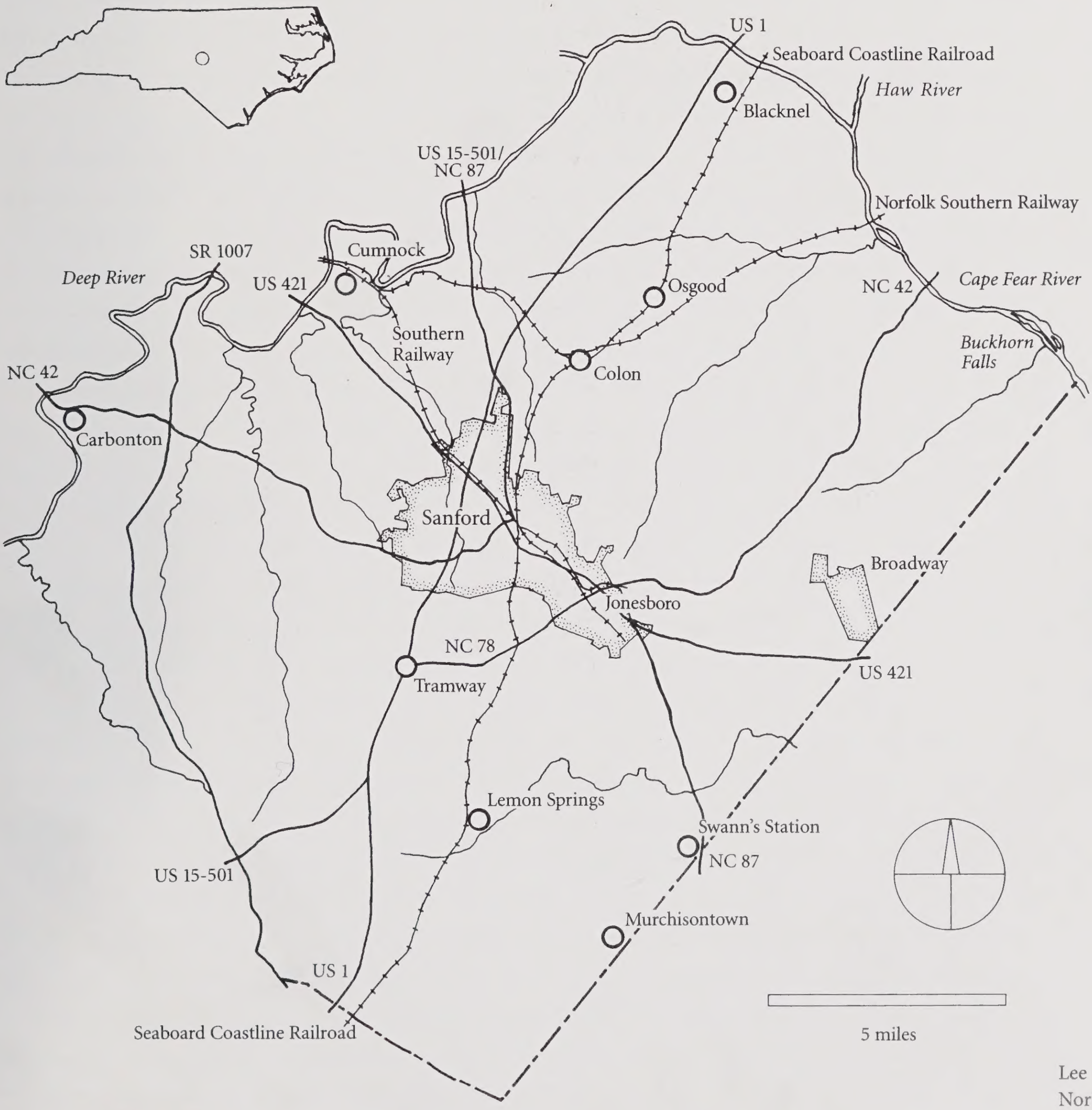
The book also includes an appendix, glossary, bibliography, and index. The appendix documents the careers of fifteen Lee County builders, architects, and construction firms that made important contributions to the development of the county's architecture or were responsible for the design or construction of a number of surviving buildings. The glossary defines architectural terms that do not ordinarily appear in standard dictionaries. It also features diagrammatic drawings of the more common house styles in the county, which are included for two reasons: to illustrate the local expressions of national styles (a typical Greek Revival house in Lee County is different from Greek Revival houses located elsewhere in the nation) and to show in context standard architectural features associated with each of the styles.

The bibliography includes both specific primary and secondary sources relating to Lee County and general sources cited in the text. Government documents, manuscript collections, maps, periodicals, and other sources are listed separately. Among the listed sources are works that were not used in the preparation of the text but that are nevertheless helpful in researching Lee County history. Newspaper articles are not listed separately by author in the bibliography or the notes, so credit is given here for the most frequently appearing authors of articles cited in the text, namely Lois Byrd, Jimmy Haire, John V. Hall, the late Mary Medley, the late J. H. Monger, and Cornelia Olive. Well over a hundred individuals were interviewed during the preparation of this publication and during the architectural survey that preceded it. Some interviews are cited in the text as personal communications to the author. Notes from other interviews that were conducted during the architectural survey are kept in the site files of the Survey and Planning Branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History in Raleigh. (A duplicate of this information is also kept at the Suzanne Reeves Library in Sanford.) Perhaps the most helpful reference source used in the preparation of this book was the *Sanford Herald* index, a copy of which is available at the Suzanne Reeves Library. The index compensates somewhat for vexing gaps in Lee County's historical record, such as the loss of most early Moore County deed records in an 1880s courthouse fire, and missing Lee County tax records before 1980.

Virtually every aspect of the county's history is tied in some way to local geography. Lee County is located at the state's geographic center and sits astride the boundary between two physiographic regions, the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain. At 255 square miles, it is one of the smallest counties in the state. The county was formed in 1907 from parts of Chatham and Moore counties, which together with Harnett County form its present borders. (For the sake of brevity, the area comprising the county will be referred to as "Lee County" throughout the book, even when the period under discussion dates to before 1907.) At the county's center is the City of Sanford, incorporated in 1874 and now the seat of county government. In 1947, Sanford annexed the adjoining town of Jonesboro, known today as Jonesboro Heights. (Jonesboro is referred to by its original name throughout the book.) The only other incorporated community is the small town of Broadway, located at the eastern edge of the county. Unincorporated communities include Blacknel, Carbonton, Colon, Cumnock, Lemon Springs, Murchisontown, Osgood, Swann's Station, and Tramway. (The village of Cumnock is referred to by its original name of Egypt when the period under discussion falls before 1895.)

Lee County is situated at the head of the main branch of the Cape Fear River, at the confluence of the river's principal tributaries: the Deep River, which forms the county's northern boundary, and the Haw River. Secondary watercourses include Little Governor's Creek (which forms part of the county's western border), Pocket Creek, Patterson Creek, Big Buffalo Creek, Little Buffalo Creek, Lick Creek, Fall Creek, and the Upper Little River. The county's lowest elevation, less than 150 feet above sea level, is located on the Cape Fear River at the eastern tip of the county. A hill two miles west of Lemon Springs and known variously as Quail Ridge, Pea Ridge, or Jesse Byrd Spivey Hill forms the county's highest elevation, more than 540 feet above sea level.

Quail Ridge is one of a number of sandy ridges in the southern quadrant of the county that mark the northern border of the North Carolina Sandhills region. A nineteenth-century traveler



Lee County,
North Carolina

described the county's Sandhills as a "regular series of undulations, not unlike the ground-swell of the ocean."[1] The more level, sandy topography of the coastal plain characterizes the area to the south and east of Sanford. The sandy sections of the county were once covered by longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*), an important source of naval stores and lumber but a hindrance to large-scale agriculture until the last stands were cleared in the early twentieth century. By contrast, the northern and western sections of the county are dominated by red clay soils and were once covered mainly by deciduous forest. These areas have been described as "a level or rolling plateau, cut by numerous valleys, whose width and depth varies with the size of the streams which have formed them."[2] The Buckhorn Falls area on the eastern edge of the county has a hilly topography not unlike the Appalachian foothills one hundred miles to the northwest.

Lee County is home to the Deep River Coal Field, the state's largest coal deposit, which extends from east to west along the county's northern edge and into Chatham County. Commercially significant deposits of stone and ore include brownstone, found throughout the northern half of the county but quarried primarily at Sanford in the 1890s; copper, located on Copper Mine Creek in the northeastern quadrant of the county and mined from the late antebellum period to the early 1900s; and shale, the basis of the brick industry established at Colon in the twentieth century. Sand and crushed stone are quarried in the county at present, and lead ore and iron ore exist in small quantities.[3]

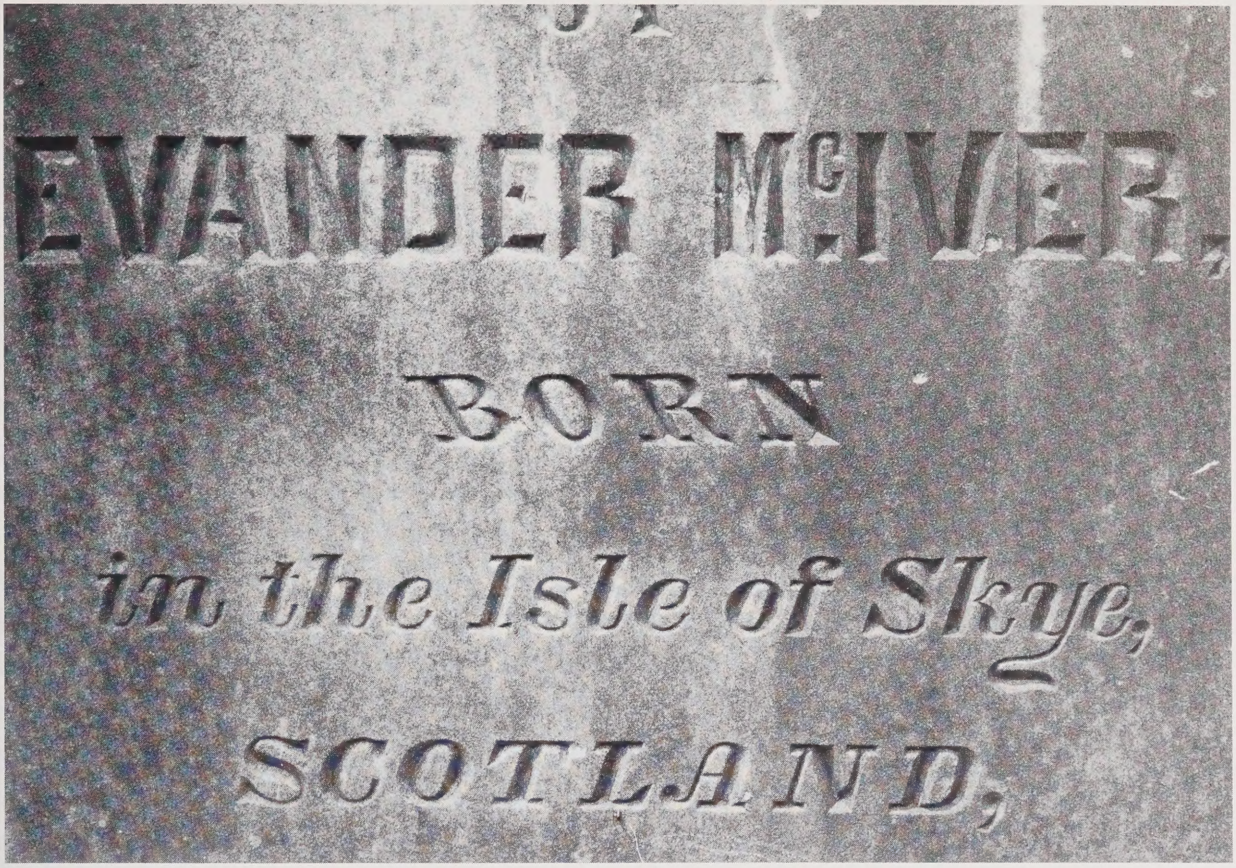
The county's natural resources attracted Native Americans thousands of years before the arrival of Europeans and Africans. Unfortunately, little is known about the aboriginal groups who lived in the county's river bottoms and uplands. Archaeological surveys conducted in advance of development activities have located Native American camps, a probable Archaic Period (8000–1000 B.C.) chert quarry, and Late Woodland Period (ca. 800–1700 A.D.) village sites in Lee County.[4] Along the Deep River are mysterious stone structures popularly believed to be Native American fish traps. One of these spans the Deep River near the SR 1007 bridge: a line of stones that may have served to impede the passage of fish, making them easier to catch.[5] Near the SR 1400 bridge is a similar feature referred to historically as the "Indian rock dam," although some claim the structure represents the remains of the early Rigdon Dam.[6] A feature known as the "Farrish Fish Trap" once stood upstream from the present US 1 bridge.[7]

The first settlers trickled into the area before the Revolutionary War. Population estimates for early Lee County are complicated by the fact that the county did not exist as a separate political entity until the 1910 federal census. Most of the county's early white and black inhabitants evidently lived along the Cape Fear and Deep rivers, where the best soil was to be found, and it has been calculated that roughly ten times as many people lived along the rivers as in the sandy uplands.[8] Reconstructed 1860 population figures for the sections of Chatham and Moore counties that later formed Lee County suggest a total population slightly in excess of 5,000 people at the end of the antebellum period. Whites probably represented roughly 70 percent of the 1860 population, whereas nonwhites, mostly free and enslaved African-Americans, accounted for the remainder.[9] In 1910, the county's population stood at 11,376, with 2,285 people living in Sanford, 1,200 in Jonesboro, and 200 in Broadway. Population grew steadily over the course of the twentieth century; by 1994, an estimated 42,500 people made Lee County their home, of whom 20,000, or nearly half, resided in the City of Sanford.[10] The populous, increasingly urbanized county of today bears little resemblance to the wild land encountered by the earliest settlers.

PART ONE

Lee County: A Historical Essay

(Overleaf) Rose
Budd School,
Blacknel vicinity,
Farrell Road,
photo ca. 1917
(demolished)



1 Beginnings, Initial Settlement to 1849

At Buckhorn Falls, the Cape Fear River splits into a maze of channels and pools. The water rushes over the boulders, roiling against masses of shattered trees washed down by the freshets. The banks rise abruptly, forested and daunting. In a calm pool below the rapids, a score or so dugout canoes are tethered to the trees that lean out over the water. Men and women are unloading for the difficult portage around the falls. Some converse in English, others prefer their native Gaelic. They are guided by a kinsman who has preceded them to this new land, who explains that the landscape opens out above the falls, and that the bottomlands along the upper Cape Fear and its branch, the Deep River, yield prodigious crops of wheat, oats, and Indian corn. The wildlife they have observed —the teeming fish, the deer and turkey in the woods—they take as a sign of the land's fecundity.

Earlier that week, below Cross Creek, they have seen immense rafts of lumber float past them to the ports at Wilmington and Brunswick, and dugouts transporting barrels of pitch and turpentine. They know that at first they too will earn their livelihood from the endless forests. They will turn their cattle loose among the canebrakes along the creeks, and their swine will gorge on the oak mast and tender longleaf pine seedlings in the sandy uplands. They will build wooden houses with wooden roofs and floors, even wooden foundations and chimneys—unthinkable in their barren Scottish homeland. They will plant their first corn crops among the girdled tree trunks of a "deadening," as they have heard it called. Eventually they will clear the narrow but rich bottoms along

Tombstone inscription of Evander McIver (1794–1866), McIver Cemetery, Cotten Road (SR 1403), Sanford vicinity *the creeks flowing into the Deep River—Governor's, Pocket, and Buffalo. With time they will build churches and schools. Their new life will require hard work, but it will be filled with hope.*

The Cape Fear River forms a natural gateway to the Carolina interior, a fact of geography that attracted the attention of European political and commercial interests at an early date. In the late 1600s, the first Europeans attempted to settle the river's lower reaches, and by the mid-1700s, English colonists were well established on the river and had begun to claim land as far upstream as the area that would become Lee County. Concurrently, Scotch-Irish, Germans, and people of other ethnic groups filtered into the upper Cape Fear region from the north. But by far those comprising the largest settlement group in the Lee County area were the Highland Scots.

The first wave of Highlanders immigrated to the upper Cape Fear during the thirty-year period between the Jacobite rebellion of 1745 and the American Revolution, although some are said to have arrived as early as 1732. A second wave came to the area during a less well defined period beginning in 1783 and continuing into the early 1800s, perhaps tapering off as immigration shifted to Canada.[1] Highland Scot settlement in North Carolina centered on Cross Creek (Fayetteville) and extended as far north as the Deep River in Lee County and as far southwest as the South Carolina line. During the ten-year period from 1745 to 1755, approximately seven land acquisitions were made by Highlanders on the Deep River in Lee County; from 1755 to 1765 approximately six more acquisitions were made in the same vicinity, and several were made on Big Buffalo Creek. By the eve of the Revolution, approximately twenty acquisitions had been made by Highland Scots along the Cape Fear and Deep rivers in Lee County, and as many as forty had been made on the county's secondary watercourses.[2]

Highland Scot settlement concentrated in the southern two-thirds of the present county, the area to the south of the Granville Line. This east-west line, located at 35 degrees 34 minutes latitude, formed the southern boundary of the Granville District. In Lee County, it extended from near Buckhorn Falls on the Cape Fear River to near the present village of Carbonton on the Deep River. (The line was later used as the boundary between Chatham and Moore counties.) Both line and district were named for Lord Granville, who controlled the dispensation of lands in the sizable area of colonial North Carolina located to the north of the line. Lord Granville was the heir of Lord Carteret, one of the original eight Lords Proprietors of the Carolina territory, and the only one who did not sell his grant back to George II when North Carolina became a Royal Colony in 1729. Following Lord Granville's death in 1763, the Granville District was closed to new grants and was not reopened until the beginning of the Revolution. During the peak years of pre-Revolutionary Highland Scot immigration to North Carolina, this circumstance complicated settlers' efforts to gain clear title to unclaimed lands in the district and thus apparently deflected most Highlander settlement to the royally administered area south of the Granville Line.[3] It may also be that the county's choicest river bottomland, all of it located along the upper Cape Fear and Deep rivers in the Granville District, was largely preempted by English and Scotch-Irish planters, leaving the poorer upland areas south of the district to later settlement by Highlanders. Despite the deterrents, though, it is clear that some Highland Scots did manage to settle north of the Granville line.

The commissioners who surveyed the Granville Line through Lee County in the fall of 1746 have left one of the first descriptions of the land through which they passed. Having taken the line to the "Saxapahaw River commonly called the North West Branch of the Cape Fear River" in April 1746, in September the commissioners reassembled at the house of Peter Parker, which was probably located in what is now southeastern Chatham County, near Avents Ferry. Before them lay what they described as the "Back Country," a desolate land "affording little or no herbage at this Season and very thinly Peopled . . . there being no inhabitants that can assist us to the westward of Saxapahaw River."[4] Any settlers who had come to the county by 1746, Highland Scot or otherwise, were apparently not to be found in the upland areas traversed by the survey.

The Highland Scots emigrated from their homeland for a variety of reasons—economic, social, and political—and were motivated as much by the prospect of advancement in the New World as by a desire to escape conditions in Scotland.[5] Considerable research has focused on the 1802 emigration to Lee County of members of the McGilvary and McIver families, substantial tenants from the Parish of Sleat on the Isle of Skye.[6] The experiences of the McGilvarys and McIvers provide insights into the broader historical trends that spurred Highland Scot imigration to Lee County.

During the second half of the eighteenth century, the Scottish Highlands were subjected to political and economic forces that severely strained Highland society and resulted in the dissolution of the ancient clan system of mutual dependence among the various social strata—the lairds, lease-holding tacksmen, leaseless tenants, and cotters or subtenants. Especially damaging were efforts by the lairds (including Lord Macdonald of Skye) to maximize income from their estates by raising rents paid by their tenants to the highest possible level, a practice known as "rack-renting." Even more devastating to the social fabric was the introduction of Cheviot sheep in the 1790s, another attempt by the lairds to increase profits. The shift from a labor-intensive crop and cattle economy to a sheep economy, which required only a few shepherds (usually skilled Lowlanders), led to the "Highland clearances"—the wholesale eviction of thousands of "surplus" Highland tenants and cotters.[7]

The Isle of Skye suffered these disruptions along with the Scottish mainland. In 1800, the tenants of Skye pleaded, "May God inspire them [Lord Macdonald of Skye's estate managers] with compassion and mercy towards the poor tenants as its a very hard affair that a hundred souls should be removed for one man in order to be stocked again with a few sheep."[8] Compounding the threat of eviction, rack-renting, and competition among tenants for farmland on the overpopulated island were the harsh winters and bad harvests of 1801 and 1802. Like so many Highlanders before them, Skye's farmers saw only one alternative: emigration. "The best Tenants of Strath & Slate [are] going to America," one of Lord Macdonald's agents reported with alarm in May 1802.[9] Several hundred Skye tenants and subtenants, including members of the McGilvary and McIver families, sailed to the Cape Fear River port of Wilmington aboard the *Duke of Kent*, arriving in October 1802.[10]

The McGilvarys and McIvers who arrived on the *Duke of Kent* followed other members of their families. The brothers Alexander, Angus, and Archibald McGilvary joined a fourth brother, Martin, who had imigrated to the upper Cape Fear region in 1789 and acquired a hundred acres on Lee County's Little Pocket Creek in 1792.[11] Duncan McIver joined other McIvers who had settled on Buffalo Creek and Juniper Creek. Although they were relative latecomers to Lee County, the *Duke of Kent* McGilvarys and McIvers and their progeny rose to the rank of prosperous landowners. They were joined by other families of probable Skye origin, among them the Dalrymples, the McDonalds, and the McLeods.[12] Other Highlander families emigrated from Argyll and Jura.[13] Such movements of related groups of tenants and cotters from a specific area of Scotland to a specific area in the colonies were a common occurrence during the period.[14] (Family groups and entire communities repeated the process several decades later, moving from Lee County to more fertile lands to the south and west.) No attempt has been made to estimate the proportion of Highland Scot settlers and their descendants to other ethnic groups in the area that became Lee County, but late-nineteenth-century maps of Moore and Chatham counties suggest that families with Highland Scot surnames accounted for at least half of the white rural residents of Lee County.[15] This rough figure is in accord with the estimated percentage of Highland Scots in the upper Cape Fear region as a whole at the end of the eighteenth century.[16]

African-Americans undoubtedly ranked among Lee County's earliest non-native inhabitants, although their numbers were initially small. In 1755, Cumberland County, from which much of Lee County ultimately derived, recorded 205 households on its tax lists. Only 25 (12 percent) of the households held slaves, and 17 of these households held only one or two, with the largest slaveholding numbering eight slaves.[17] In 1790, Lee County's precursor counties, Moore and Chatham, were typical of the counties of the North Carolina Piedmont and mountains in that fewer than 20 percent of the inhabitants were enslaved blacks.[18]

Lee County's European and African settlers had been agriculturalists in their homelands, and so farming naturally developed as the mainstay of the local economy during the 1700s and early 1800s. The richest farmland was found along the Cape Fear and Deep rivers and on the alluvial strips along smaller watercourses, although in comparison with other parts of North Carolina, Lee County's soils were on the whole relatively unproductive. The Highland Scots cultivated corn, wheat, oats, peas, beans, sweet potatoes, and flax on their farms.[19] Connor Dowd, an early Irish planter of Loyalist sympathies who claimed to own over seven thousand acres near Carbonton, had substantial quantities of corn, oats, wheat, and rye on hand when he was forced to flee his plantation during the Revolution.[20]

Livestock production was vital to Lee County's early agricultural economy. The county's farmers, like their compatriots throughout the colony and state, probably obtained their principal income from the sale of cattle and hogs.[21] Cattle herds among the Highland Scots of the upper Cape Fear typically numbered between twenty and thirty head during the late 1700s, although larger herds were common.[22] Cattle fed on the lush cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) that grew in dense brakes along the creeks and draws, and swine subsisted on oak mast and the seeds, roots, and tender seedlings of the longleaf pines. Many farms included forested upland range, paralleling land use in the Highlands, where farmers tilled the valley floors and utilized higher ground for pasture, or settlers let their livestock roam freely through unpatented tracts.[23] Much of the corn raised in the region went to fattening cattle and swine for market; corn was also the settlers' dietary staple.[24] Settlers fenced in their corn patches to keep out free-ranging livestock, the reverse of the twentieth-century practice of fencing animals in.

Lee County's farmers relied on a crude and at times perilous system of roads and waterways to transport agricultural products. Unpaved roads had traversed the area since the beginning of settlement, but prior to the mid-1800s, the Cape Fear and Deep rivers served as the principal link to outside markets. Fayetteville was considered the natural head of navigation on the Cape Fear for most vessels, yet canoes, rafts, and possibly batteaus (shallow-draft, keel-bottomed

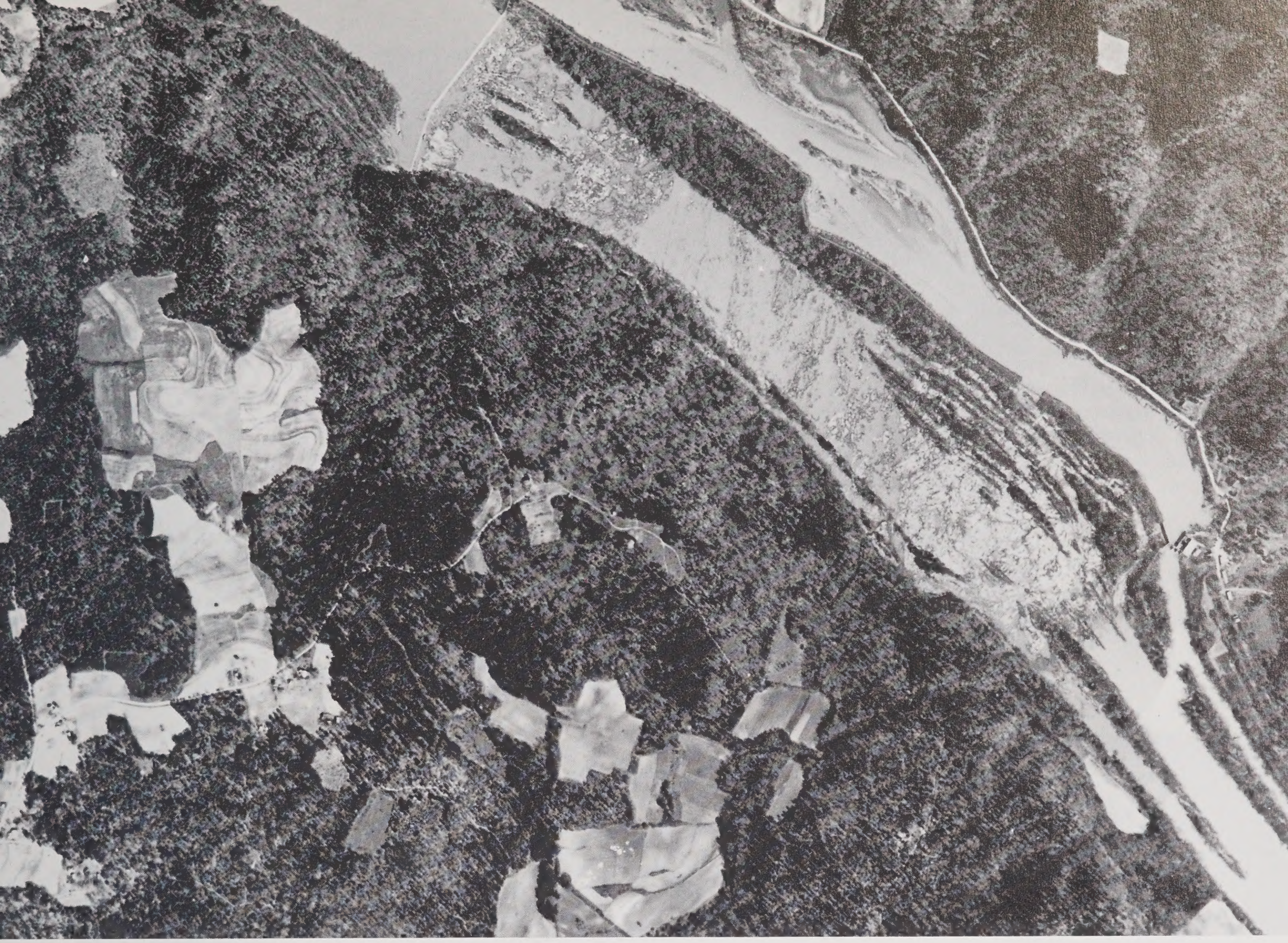


Figure 1.1
Aerial view of Buckhorn Falls in 1938. North is toward the top of the view. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

boats) ventured farther upstream.[25] Navigation on the rivers was made difficult by rapids such as Buckhorn Falls on the Cape Fear, which falls sixteen feet in under two miles (Fig. 1.1). At the beginning of the 1800s, large vessels required an entire day to pick their way through the rapids at Buckhorn.[26] The region's merchants and planters made several attempts to improve the river above Fayetteville, first incorporating the short-lived Cape Fear Company in 1792. The Cape Fear Company may have completed some form of navigation works at Buckhorn Falls in the 1790s. A later enterprise, the Deep and Haw River Navigation Company, was active from 1800 to 1819.[27] The Cape Fear Navigation Company, organized in 1815, succeeded in building a canal, locks, and a dam at Buckhorn Falls by 1834.[28]

A mysterious navigation works associated with one of these early projects extends for at least a quarter mile along the west bank of the river at Buckhorn Falls (Fig. 1.2). The structure consists of a channel approximately ten feet wide formed by the bank of the river and a stone wall standing in the current. The channel may have served as a sluice for hauling river craft upstream. The ruins of other navigation works survive among the tortuous channels of the falls.[29]

River transportation was a key element in the establishment of the county's first large-scale industry, the Willcox Iron Works, one of the earliest iron works in North Carolina. Pennsylvania native John Willcox (1728–93) settled at Cross Creek about 1760 and established a store.

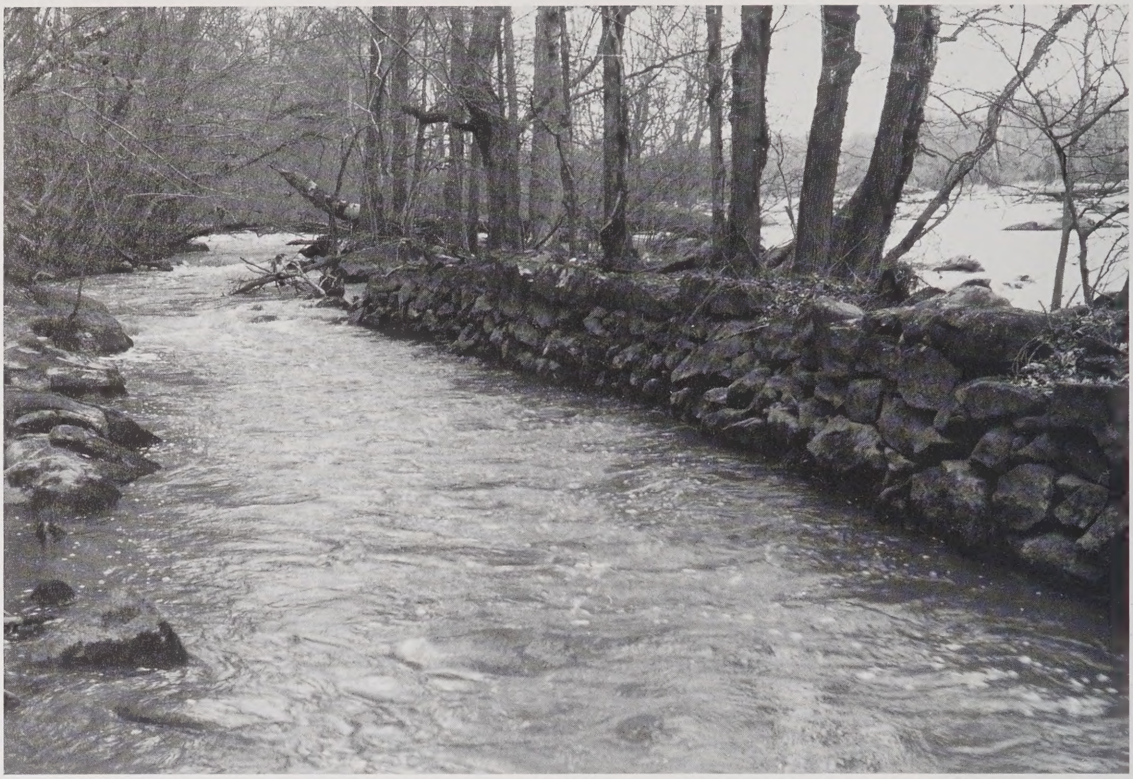


Figure 1.2 Buckhorn Falls Navigation Works

In June 1768, Willcox, William Thompson, and Herman Husband (a leader in the Regulator movement) "agreed to join into partnership to build an iron works, merchant mills and sawmill at a place called the Gulph by the name of Deep River Company."[30] The iron works were completed in September 1768 on the south side of the Deep River across from Gulf. Eventually, the complex included a bloomery, a forge, a log casting house, a sixty-foot-long coal house, a blacksmith shop, a gristmill and sawmills, a brickyard, a "negroe home," "hands houses," and other buildings. Several of these buildings were erected by a Mr. White of Cross Creek; others may have been built by a slave named Jumbo who worked as a carpenter at the forge.[31]

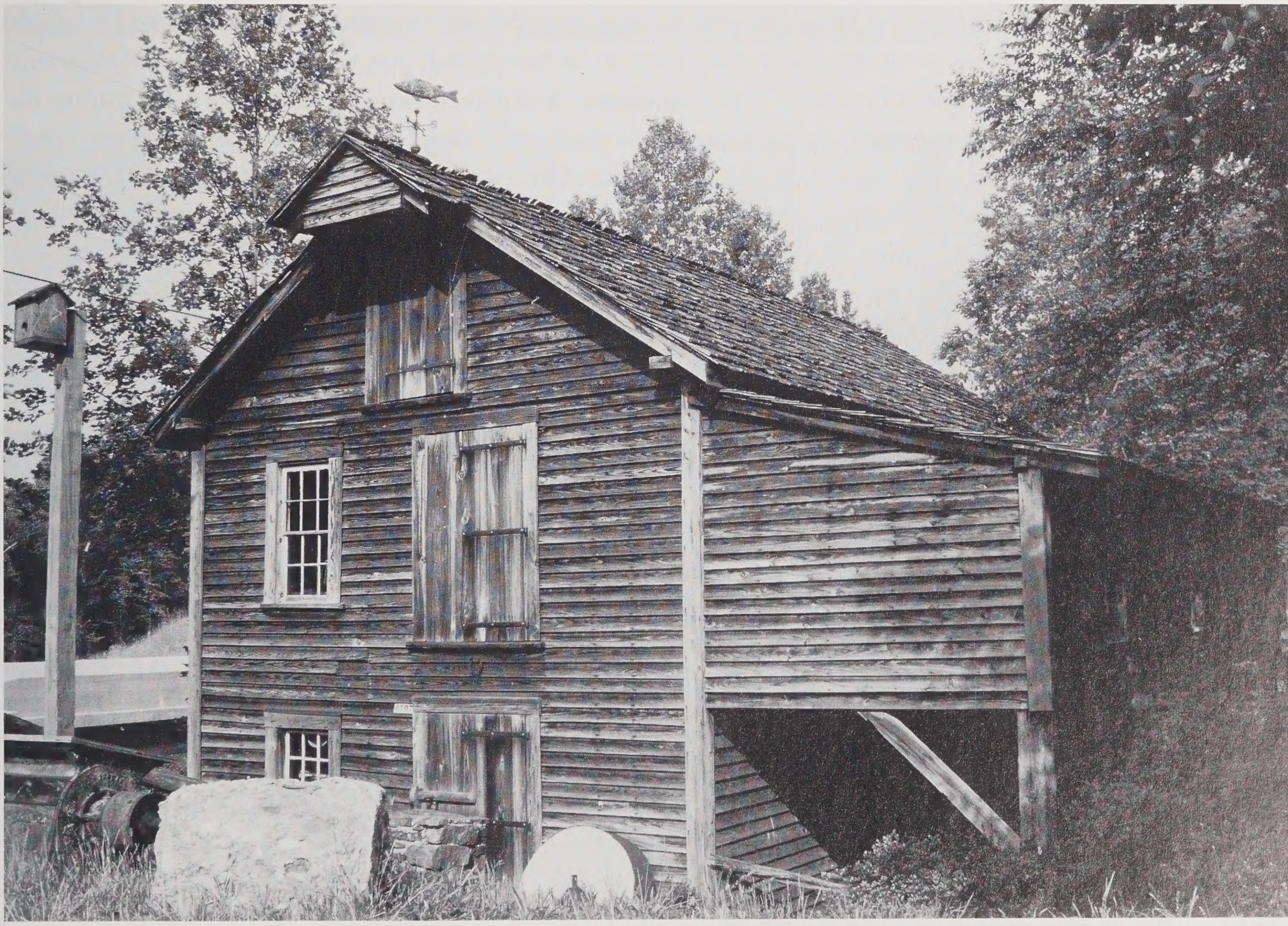
The Willcox Iron Works produced bar iron for local consumption and export and pots and kettles that were sold at Cross Creek.[32] Willcox also established a furnace at Ore Hill near Siler City. In 1777, the iron works and furnace were taken over by the fledgling State of North Carolina and devoted to the production of ordnance. Technical problems with the furnace may have hampered the casting of cannon, but it is certain that other essential items were manufactured at the furnace and iron works during a critical period in the state's history.[33] In the 1780s, after regaining control of the iron works, Willcox evidently moved his operations to the Chatham County side of the river and constructed a furnace at the site; the old location, on the Lee County side of the river, was lower and therefore prone to flooding.[34]

In addition to his pioneering work in iron making, John Willcox was the first individual to attempt commercial coal mining in the Deep River Coal Field. The Willcox coal pit was located near Gulf on the Chatham County side of the Deep River.[35] Denison Olmstead, a professor of chemistry and mineralogy at the University of North Carolina, reported in 1824 that during Willcox's lifetime the coal "was freely employed in the vicinity, although the want of water carriage prevented it being transported to a distant market." Despite his experiments in coal mining, Willcox and others involved in the Lee County iron industry appear to have preferred charcoal for their iron making. Large-scale exploitation of the coalfield would not begin in earnest until the 1850s.

In addition to the Willcox mills — an important adjunct to the iron works — there were other merchant mills in the county, such as the Dowd complex at Carbonton, which was probably established in the late 1760s, and the Ramsey flour mill and sawmill near the US1 crossing of Deep River, established during the same period. Connor Dowd's complex apparently stood near the NC 42 crossing of the Deep River north of Carbonton and included a grist mill, saw mill, bolting mill, tanyard, and distillery (Fig. 1.3).[36]

Industrial complexes such as those of Willcox and Dowd are indicative of the emergence of a socioeconomic elite by the end of the 1700s, men who operated stores, taverns, and large plantations in addition to mills. The Willcox, Dowd, and Ramsey mills were large riverside operations, but numerous smaller mills occupied likely mill seats on smaller watercourses. Also important to the county's early economy were its infant lumber and naval stores industries. The county's forests contributed to the enormous volume of lumber — 30 million board feet in some years — shipped from the Cape Fear region during the colonial period.[37] By the 1850s, the lands along the Deep River had been largely stripped of timber, and lumbering activity had begun to move

Figure 1.3 Gilliam Mill, Carbonton Road (NC 42) and Little Pocket Creek, Carbonton vicinity. A faithful modern reconstruction of a historic mill that stood nearby, Gilliam Mill is representative of the county's larger early mills.



inland.[38] Tar, produced through the slow burning of longleaf pine timber in earthen "tar kilns," was another early export.

Lee County's Highland Scot settlers brought with them the institutions of their homeland, most importantly their church and their tradition of schooling. At first, itinerant Presbyterian clergy preached to small groups of settlers in dwellings and barns or in the open air. By 1797, the Rev. William D. Paisley (1770–1857) began to preach at the headwaters of Big Buffalo Creek, and Buffalo Church came into existence as the northernmost of the Presbyterian congregations founded by the Cape Fear Highland Scots in the 1700s.[39] Euphronia Presbyterian Church was formed from Buffalo during the 1810s, and by the early 1900s, eight other Presbyterian congregations had been organized in the area.[40] Baptist and Methodist congregations appeared in the county during the early decades of the nineteenth century, and several Quaker families lived in the northern part of the county. Camp meetings were held on occasion during the antebellum period. One camp meeting in the Buckhorn Falls vicinity (in Lee or present Chatham County) was said to have attracted several thousand people and to have required the combined force of twelve preachers.[41]

Euphronia Church was associated with the Euphronian Academy, established in 1811 near Carbonton. In fact, the church and school at first shared the same building and the same minister and teacher, Murdock (or Murdoch) McMillan, who preached in Gaelic as well as English.[42] The Euphronian Academy was succeeded by the Carbonton Academy, also known as Harrington's Male and Female School, which in 1853 advertised its "Academies, newly erected, [which] occupy an elevated and healthy position, in the *long leaf pines*, near the place formerly known as 'McMillan's Academy.' "[43] (The emphasis on longleaf pines reflected the old belief that the fragrant air of sandy upland pine barrens was more healthful than the miasmic atmosphere of low-lying areas.) Church-affiliated schools proliferated during the 1800s, and in the late antebellum period they were joined by state-supported common schools. Because many indigent children attended them, the common schools were often looked down upon and not given the full support of the community. One area teacher complained of a lack of "interest taken in common schools by the people in general" in Chatham County.[44] Of course, the demands of farming prevented many children from attending school. As in other parts of North Carolina, the county's wealthiest citizens hired tutors for the instruction of their children and their neighbors'.

Lee County's early European and African inhabitants evolved a distinctive culture by the early 1800s, a culture that grew from the land and its resources and from the traditions brought by the settlers from their homelands. What little we know about these people and their culture comes largely from archival sources: court records, census schedules, the occasional letter or traveler's account. Clues are also provided by the landscape itself: the traces of occupation revealed by the archaeologist, or the tombstone inscriptions copied by the genealogist. Historic architecture provides another vital source of information. Few houses dating to the first half of the nineteenth century or earlier survive in Lee County, but studied in combination with traditional archival sources, this small sample can illuminate important aspects of the county's history.

Archival sources suggest that most of the county's early inhabitants lived in rudimentary log dwellings. In 1810, a resident of Moore County reported, "The Major part of our buildens [*sic*] are Log Houses."[45] Earlier, in 1777, the region's first-generation housing had caught the attention of James Milles, a state-appointed manager of the Willcox Iron Works. Milles complained to a correspondent about his problems in acquiring land for cutting wood and making charcoal, accusing his neighbors of putting up flimsy houses in order to obtain unclaimed tracts and resell them at a profit to the state. "Nor can I persuade myself that every man that built a cabbin on these poor lands intended to survey 640 acres of them," wrote Milles. "It is more likely they were only intended [as] temporary resting hutts for a year or two."[46] His disdain for the log cabins hastily thrown together by the locals did not prevent Milles from building in log himself when circumstances dictated. Of a casting house begun in March 1777, Milles wrote, "This for dispatch will be of loggs, at least the body of it, it will be sooner completed to answer the present purpose, but it ought to have been framed."[47]

Many years later, in 1853, Frederick Law Olmsted traversed the region's pine forests and witnessed homesteading still in progress. The basic log houses he described could have been built at any time during the preceding century. "A family of [the local] people will commonly hire, or 'squat' and build, a little log cabin, so made that it is only a shelter from rain, the sides not being chinked, and having no more furniture or pretension to comfort than is commonly provided a criminal in the cell of a prison."[48]

Rudimentary housing such as that observed by Milles and Olmsted was a practical response to the conditions of pioneer society. The priority of any homesteader on an unimproved claim was to clear the land and get in a crop. A simple log cabin, erected in the course of a day with the help of kin or neighbors, would suffice until a more substantial dwelling could be erected. Mobility was also a factor. Many of Lee County's early settlers were sojourners, on the lookout

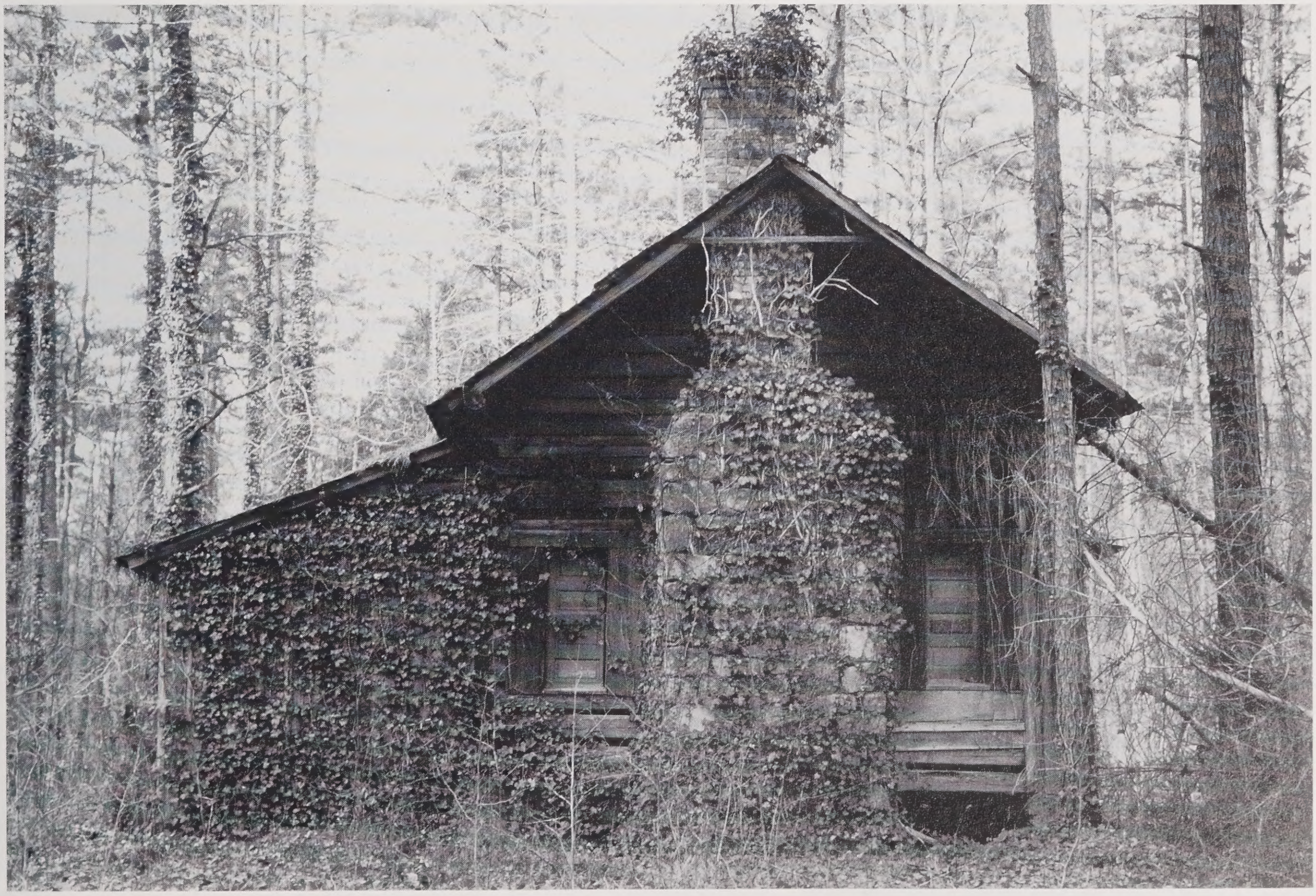
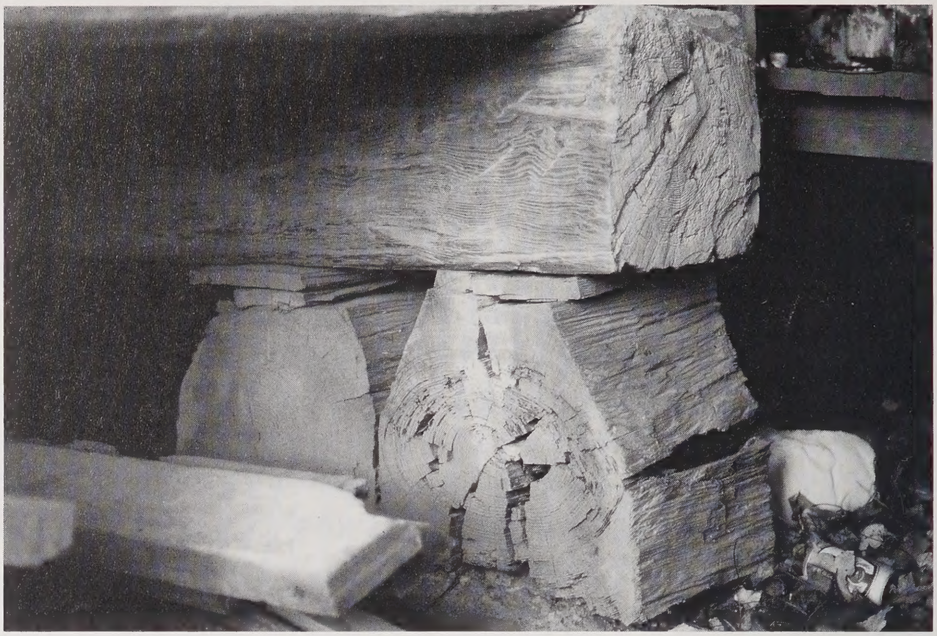


Figure 1.4 McGregor-Jackson House (ca. 1825), Dry Fork Road (SR 1303), Tramway vicinity. This view shows the deep gable overhang on the south elevation of the house.

Figure 1.5 Lightwood foundation blocks under the McGregor-Jackson House



for better lands to the south and west. For them, building a well-constructed and lasting house would have been a waste of time and resources.

Of Lee County's small sample of early houses, the McGregor-Jackson House is probably most like the simple dwellings occupied by the majority of the county's inhabitants during the 1700s and early 1800s. This one-story house was built on a sandy ridge above the headwaters of Pocket Creek for Daniel and Ginny McGregor, probably in the 1820s.[49] The logs used to build the house are hewn down and joined by V-notching, a more refined form of corner notching than the simple saddle-notch employed for the more impermanent houses of the period.

The south gable end of the McGregor-Jackson House probably featured a wooden chimney before the present stone and brick chimney was built. The main evidence for this conjecture is the deeply overhanging gable on the chimney end of the house (Fig. 1.4). Such a gable would have sheltered a mud-daubed wooden chimney from the elements, and overhangs are often found on North Carolina houses that have wooden chimneys or are known to have featured them. A wooden chimney might seem like an invitation for disaster, and such chimneys were in fact prone to catch fire, but they appealed to many homebuilders because they were apparently easier and cheaper to build than masonry chimneys. When they were well maintained, with a thick layer of fire-hardened mud on the inside, their inherent hazards were diminished.

Wooden chimneys survive in Moore and Harnett counties, which adjoin Lee. The fact that they are concentrated in and around the Sandhills partially reflects the lack of building stone in the region (although wooden chimneys were also built in rockier sections of the state). The relative isolation of the region until the late 1800s also contributed to their continued use and subsequent higher rate of survival. The examples that survive are constructed of cribbed logs, mud-daubed sticks, wooden posts with lath-and-mud or rubble-and-mud infill, or a combination of techniques. The McGregor-Jackson chimney may have been constructed of logs, perhaps with a mud-and-stick stack.

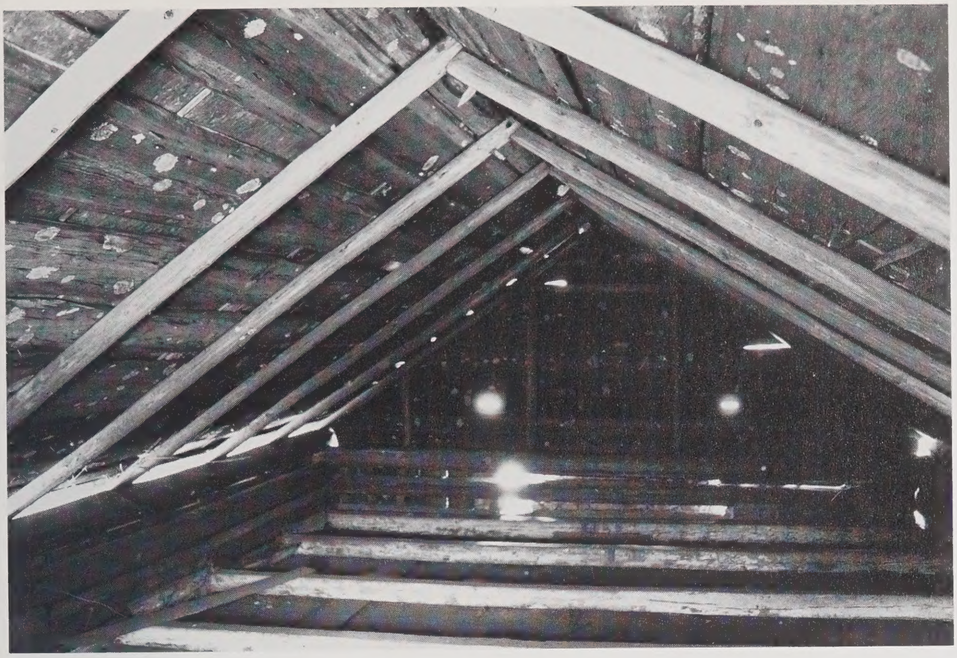


Figure 1.6
Roof structure of the McGregor-Jackson House. Note the alternating pegs at tops of rafters.

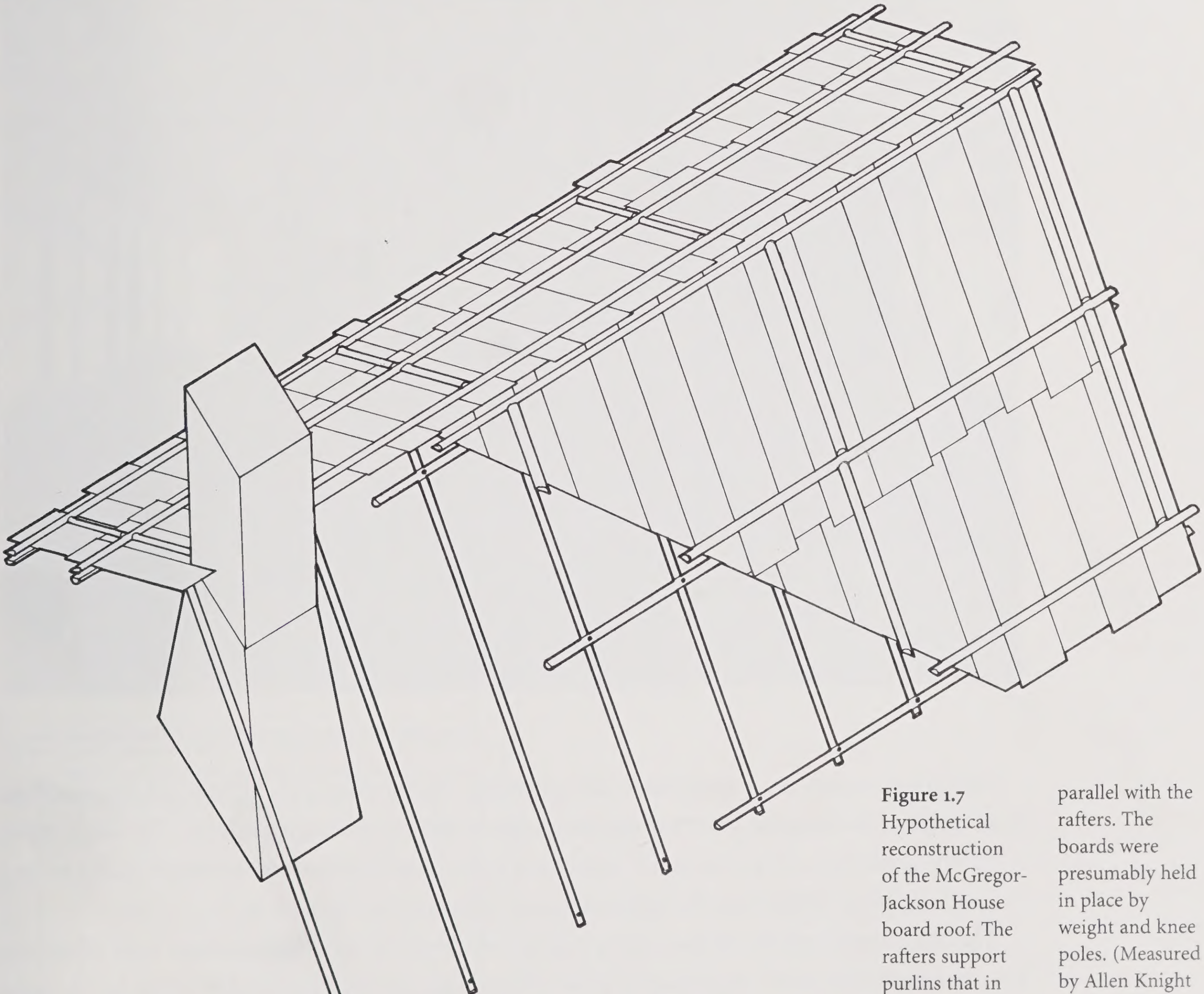
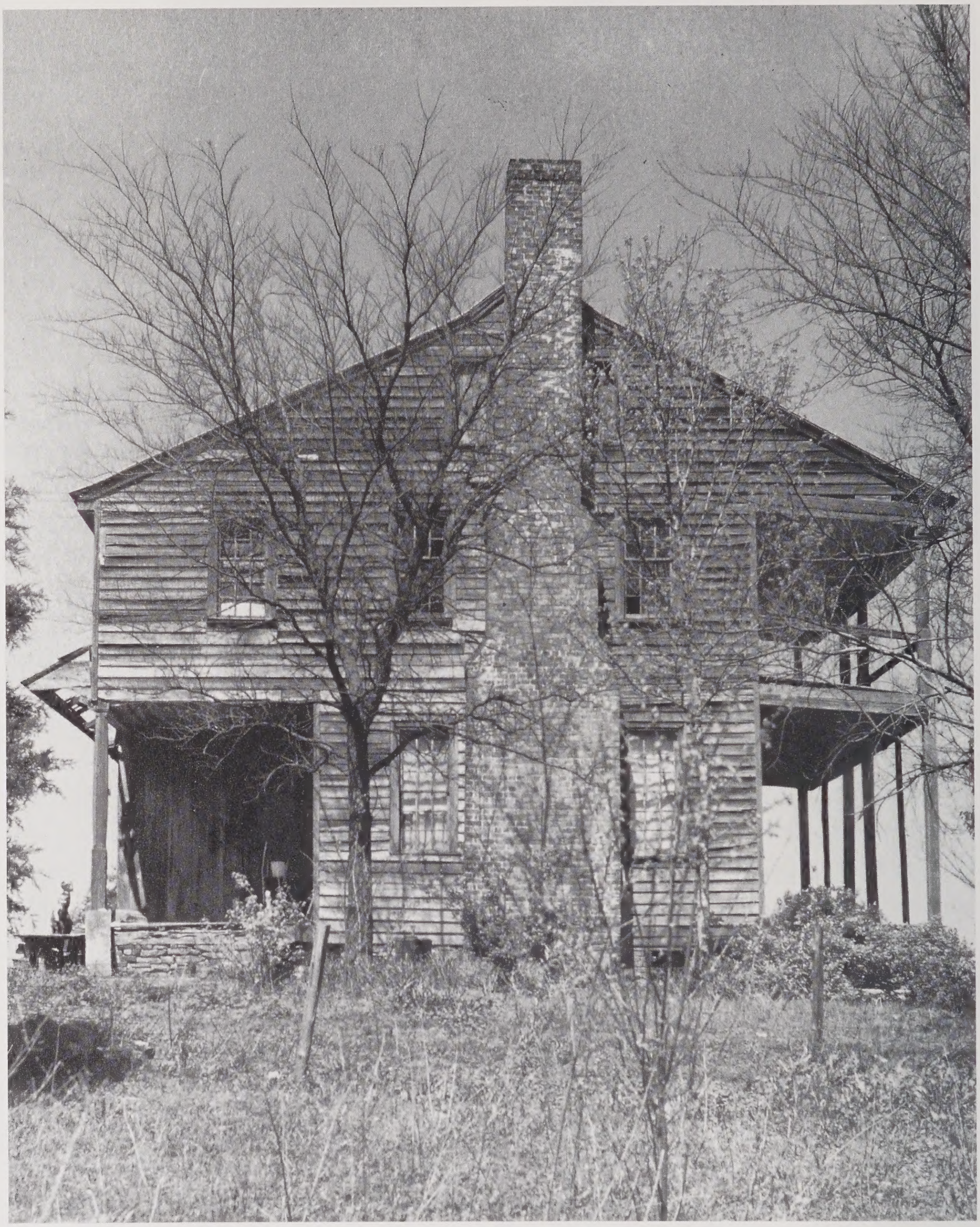


Figure 1.7
Hypothetical reconstruction of the McGregor-Jackson House board roof. The rafters support purlins that in turn support boards laid vertically, parallel with the rafters. The boards were presumably held in place by weight and knee poles. (Measured by Allen Knight and the author; drawn by the author)

Figure 1.8 Tyson House (ca. 1800), Woolard Road, Carbonton. This mid-twentieth-century view of the south elevation shows the double-shouldered chimney and engaged front and rear porches and rooms in their original state. (Courtesy of Margery B. Cole)



The house stands on a foundation of lightwood blocks (Fig. 1.5). Lightwood, the resinous heartwood of the longleaf pine, has excellent insect- and rot-resistant qualities. The wood made a durable substitute for scarce stone and costly brick, and foundations of wood blocks resting on grade or posts driven into the ground are still common in the county.

The McGregor-Jackson House also preserves evidence of an original board roof (Figs. 1.6, 1.7). Wood shingle roofs consumed a great many nails, which were hard to come by in back-country areas before the mid-1800s, when mass production and transportation improvements made them locally cheap and plentiful. James Milles at the Willcox Iron Works lamented that nails were "not to be got" in 1777.[50] One common solution was to make roofs out of boards laid on horizontal purlins (usually logs spanning between the gable ends) and held in place by weight poles; such roofs required no nails. The McGregor-Jackson House and the Deaton House on Wet Creek in western Moore County are the only North Carolina houses yet identified with evidence of board roofing where the boards were laid vertically on purlins supported by conventional common rafter roofs.[51]

At the opposite end of the architectural spectrum from the McGregor-Jackson House is the Tyson House at Carbonton (Fig. 1.8). This substantial frame dwelling, originally two stories in height, was apparently built before 1805 for the Tyson family, either for Cornelius Tyson, Sr. (1722–94 or –95), a prominent early landowner and Quaker, or his son, merchant Aaron Tyson (1760–1805).[52] The Tyson House is probably typical of the homes of Lee County's early landowning and mercantile elite. Its frame construction was one hallmark of its refinement; only a wealthy individual would go to the trouble and expense of hiring a professional carpenter to produce and assemble the structural members of a frame house. Consequently, a large frame house was a status symbol in the backcountry of Lee County. Another impressive feature of the Tyson House is its Flemish-bond brick chimney with paved double shoulders and, in the center of its stack, a diamond motif formed from glazed header bricks. Two other early Lee County frame houses have (or had) double-shouldered brick chimneys: the McBryde-Willcox House, also located at Carbonton, and the Murchison-Henley House on Pocket Creek. These finely

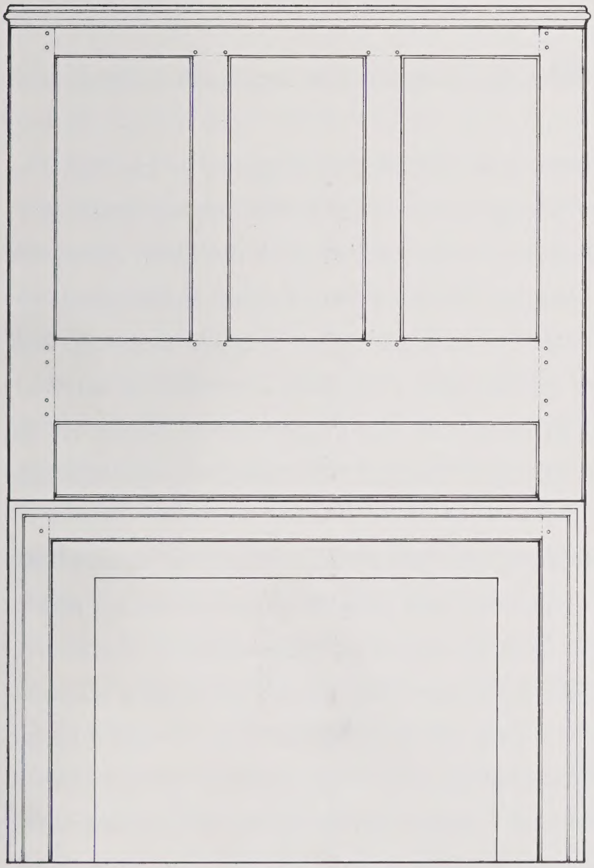


Figure 1.9
Mantel in the south downstairs room (hall) of the Tyson House. The mantel and overmantel stand approximately ten feet high. (Measured by Leslie Giles and the author; drawn by the author)

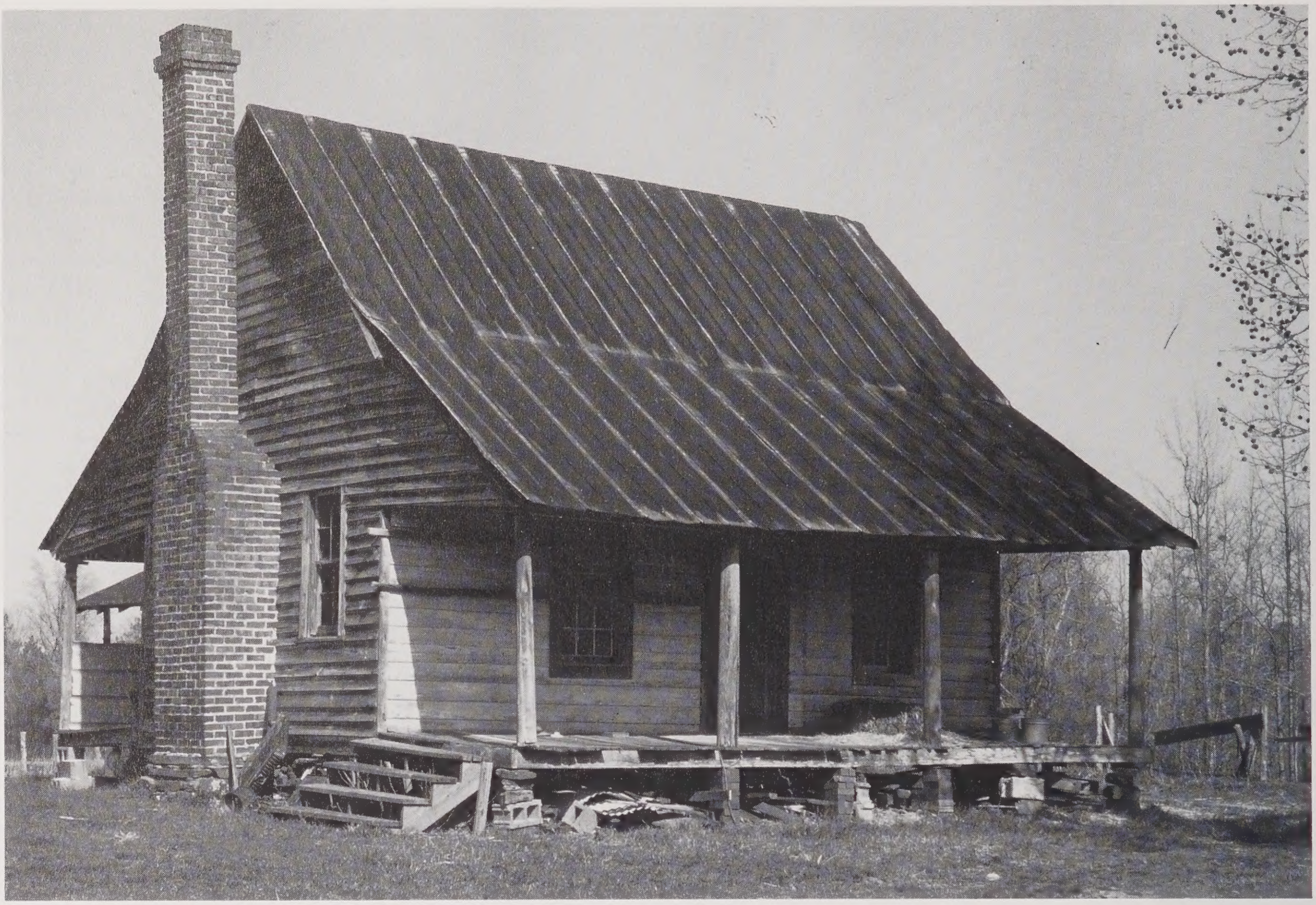
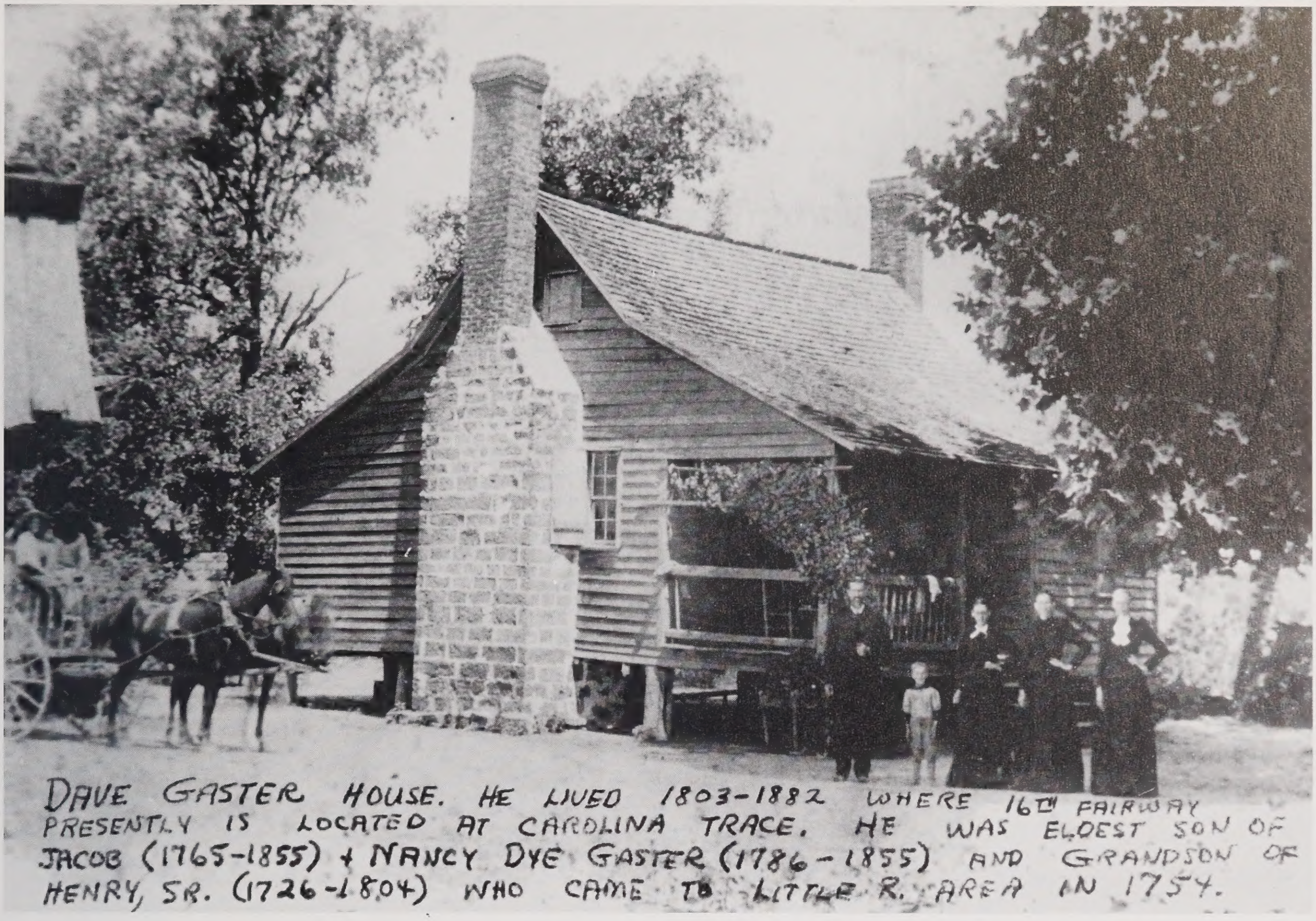


Figure 1.10 Douglas-Lett House (ca. 1815), 1508 Buckhorn Road (SR 1538), Broadway vicinity, a representative house of the coastal cottage form

crafted brick chimneys contrasted dramatically with the crude wooden and rubble chimneys of the county's less affluent inhabitants.

The architectural refinement of the Tyson House exterior carries through to its interior. The house is Lee County's foremost example of the Georgian style and in that respect shares kinship with its older and better known neighbor several miles upstream on the Deep River, the Alston House (House in the Horseshoe). The Georgian styling is most evident in the composition of the mantelpiece in the main room, which features an architrave fireplace surround and an overmantel with three recessed and molded panels (Fig. 1.9). Only one other house with Georgian-influenced styling has been identified in the county: the Paisley-Spivey House on the headwaters of Pocket Creek, which features an architrave mantel with a four-square arrangement of plain recessed panels above.

In its original, two-story form, the Tyson House bore a strong resemblance to houses built along the North Carolina seaboard during the Colonial and early National periods. Specifically, the gable roof sheltered both a two-tier front porch and a partially enclosed rear porch. Another early Lee County dwelling also reflects the influence of coastal architectural traditions. The ca. 1815 Douglas-Lett House, which stands on a ridge overlooking the Cape Fear River near Buckhorn Falls, is a one-story version of the Tyson House, with front and rear porches and a rear shed room engaged under a single capacious roof—a form known in North Carolina as the "coastal cottage" and referred to elsewhere in the South as the "Creole cottage" (Figs. 1.10, 1.11).



DAVE GASTER HOUSE. HE LIVED 1803-1882 WHERE 16TH FAIRWAY PRESENTLY IS LOCATED AT CAROLINA TRACE. HE WAS ELDEST SON OF JACOB (1765-1855) + NANCY DYE GASTER (1786-1855) AND GRANDSON OF HENRY, SR. (1726-1804) WHO CAME TO LITTLE R. AREA IN 1754.

Figure 1.11
David Gaster House (ca. 1830), Carolina Trace, Swann's Station vicinity, another coastal cottage (demolished). The cotton house that appears at the left edge of the view features a board roof. (Courtesy of Marvin Gaster)

The form of the Tyson and Douglas-Lett houses suggests that Lee County's early elite maintained cultural ties with the centers of social and economic power in the Carolina Tidewater.

Most of Lee County's early houses now stand in isolation—the domestic and farm buildings that once clustered around them have long since disappeared. A notable exception is the Palmer Farm, located on the North Plank Road (SR 1007) in a bend of the Deep River. At the center of the farm stands the Palmer House, with an 1810s or earlier log section that is the county's oldest known log dwelling. Nearby, in a shallow draw next to the road, is a structure known to generations of the Palmer family as the Quaker Spring, a brownstone-lined spring pit with a graceful double flight of steps leading down into it (Fig. 1.12). The spring may once have been roofed, giving it the character of a large walk-in springhouse. The other early structure on the farm is a brick "cellar," a semisubterranean storeroom once used to keep dairy products and other perishable foods. The cellar's Flemish-bond walls, penciled mortar joints, closer bricks, and segmental-arched door suggest that it dates to the same period as the log section of the Palmer House. A nineteenth-century corncrib and wagon shelter, two tenant houses, and a family cemetery make the Palmer Farm one of Lee County's most complete early building complexes.

Rivaling the craftsmanship of the finest early houses are the county's Highland Scot cemeteries. Among the most remarkable of these is the Murchison Cemetery, also known as the Becky Murchison Cemetery, which occupies a quarter-acre square of land on a wooded bluff above Little Pocket Creek. At the time of the first dated burial in 1782, the cemetery lay in the midst

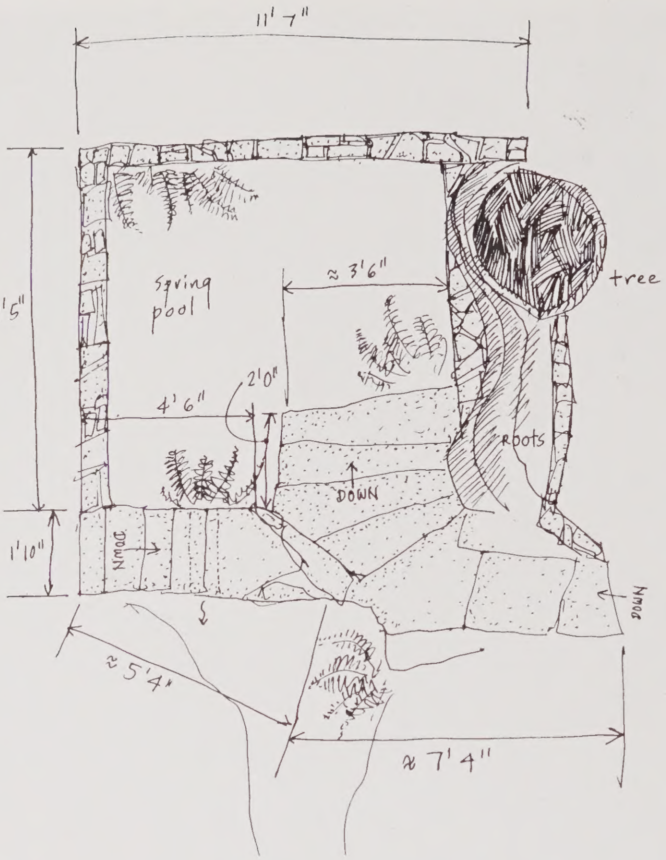
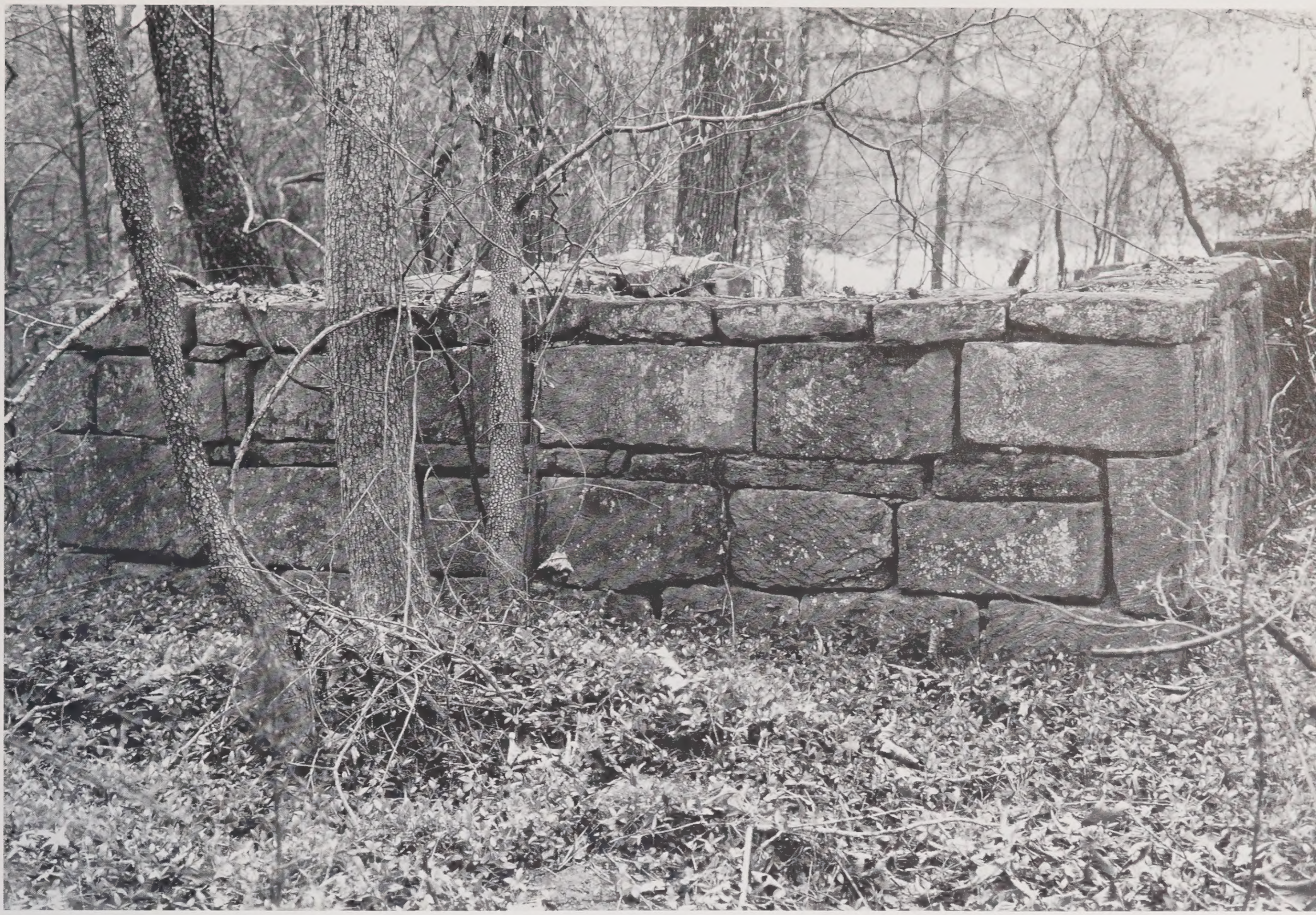


Figure 1.12 Quaker Spring (ca. 1800), a brownstone-enclosed spring on the Palmer Farm (SR 1007), Carbonton vicinity (Field sketch plan by the author)

of farms newly settled by Highland Scots, many of them recent arrivals to the Deep River area. Around their cemetery these settlers raised a brownstone wall, with stone stiles (steps) on two of its hundred-foot sides, to keep the free-ranging swine in the woods from rooting among the graves. Today the landscape around the cemetery is abandoned, a patchwork of oak woods, regimented pine plantations, and scattered piles of stones marking the ruins of old chimneys. The cemetery's table tombs have collapsed, the gravestones with their round heads and square shoulders have begun to lean, and the surrounding forest closes in on the site. But despite its now forlorn character, the Murchison Cemetery resonates with the spirituality of the area's early settlers.

Lee County's early cemeteries are carefully planned sites that feature grave art of considerable distinction. Several are located on low ridges adjoining streams. Graves are often aligned in rows with markers facing eastward—an allusion to the dawn of Judgment Day. Some cemeteries are enclosed by finely constructed walls of local brownstone. The Carloss Cemetery, located in the northern corner of the county, has one of the smallest walled enclosures, measuring only 12 feet by 12 feet (Fig. 1.13); the Murchison Cemetery is the largest, at approximately 100 feet by 100 feet. The stone stiles providing access to the Murchison Cemetery are unusual; most walled cemeteries have gates. For example, the McIver Cemetery, also known as the Scotch Ever McIver Cemetery, on Cotten Road (SR 1403) has a gateway flanked by large upright brownstone blocks with remnants of iron hardware. Not all early Lee County cemeteries relied on walls for protection. At the Gilchrist-Campbell Cemetery, located on a well-drained site off Cedar Lane Road (SR 1182) in the Sandhills, suitable building stone was not readily available. Instead of building a wall, the cemetery's stewards had a protective ditch or ha-ha dug on three sides of the cemetery. The ditch may have protected the cemetery's graves from animals or careless plowmen, or



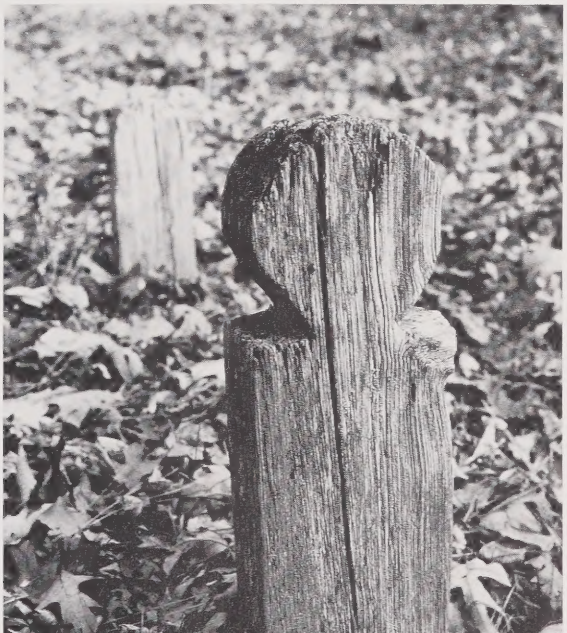


Figure 1.13
Carloss Cemetery wall, Deep River Road (SR 1466), Blacknel vicinity

Figure 1.14
Undated wood discoid marker, Cole Cemetery, White Hill Road (US 15-501), Tramway vicinity

it may have afforded wooden grave markers (of which a few charred examples survive) some protection from brush fires. The fact that the ditch did not continue across the fourth side suggests that it may once have been supplemented by a fence.

Grave markers in a range of sizes, shapes, and materials survive in the county's early cemeteries, from unworked stone and crudely shaped wood to masterpieces of carving and design. Hewn from durable woods such as cedar and lightwood, wooden markers were often of a distinctive form known as "discoid," with an anthropomorphic round "head" set on a rectangular "body" (Fig. 1.14). Fieldstone markers were either used individually, as headstones, or were piled or spread over graves. Fieldstone piles helped shield graves from animals or from unintentional disturbance by human activity.

The Douglas Cemetery, adjacent to the Douglas-Lett House on Buckhorn Road (SR 1538), has numerous individual fieldstone markers and several piles of white quartzite fieldstones that are said to mark the graves of slaves. If the fieldstone piles indeed mark slave burials, it is notable that Archibald and Rosa Douglas, the slaveowners, are buried in the midst of their slaves.[53] Local tradition asserts that a pile of brownstone rubble outside the Murchison Cemetery covers the grave of a "bad man" or "witch" and that the stones serve to "keep him down," although the grave's location beyond the cemetery's protective walls was probably a more compelling reason for covering it.[54] It may also be that the Lee County tradition of piling stones on graves is related to the Scottish tradition of erecting cairns at graves and other hallowed sites.[55]

The county's more permanent early monuments were carved from a variety of indigenous and imported stones. Local brownstone was used extensively. In the northwest quadrant of the county, headstones were carved out of yellow-green or pink soapstone that may have come from quarries near Goldston.[56] Several headstones in the McIver Cemetery (some dating to the late 1700s) are carved from a dark gray slate that may have been quarried in the Rocky River vicinity of present Chatham County.[57] By the end of the antebellum period, imported marble gained popularity among the county's elite.

The brownstone monuments widely used in early cemeteries are typically discoid in form, but some resemble the stylish Georgian headstones erected throughout the Eastern Seaboard during the 1700s and early 1800s. Two early brownstone monuments that depart radically from these standard forms are located side by side in the Murchison Cemetery. One of these is an uninscribed ledger with a raised panel bearing small bas-relief carvings of a human figure and a peaked-lid casket (Fig. 1.15). The other monument, which marks the grave of Daniel Murchison (d. 1788), takes the form of a small casket with a peaked lid (Fig. 1.16). Contemporary casket monuments are not unknown in Scotland and England, although they are rare, and they are occasionally encountered in the southeastern United States.[58]

The Murchison casket monuments are just two examples of a rich tradition of grave art in Lee County. Local brownstone and especially soapstone permitted carving of considerable refinement. In the Farrar Cemetery near Carbonton stand several small pink soapstone monuments from the 1820s and 1830s that feature discoid forms, delicate block letter and cursive inscriptions, and recessed semicircular panels with carved urns enclosed by scalloped borders (Fig. 1.17). The McIver Cemetery has a number of gravestones—one dated 1797—with reeded sides and beaded edges. In addition to the conventional (but locally rare) urn and willow motifs of the early 1800s, some monuments feature unusual designs, such as those that appear on the

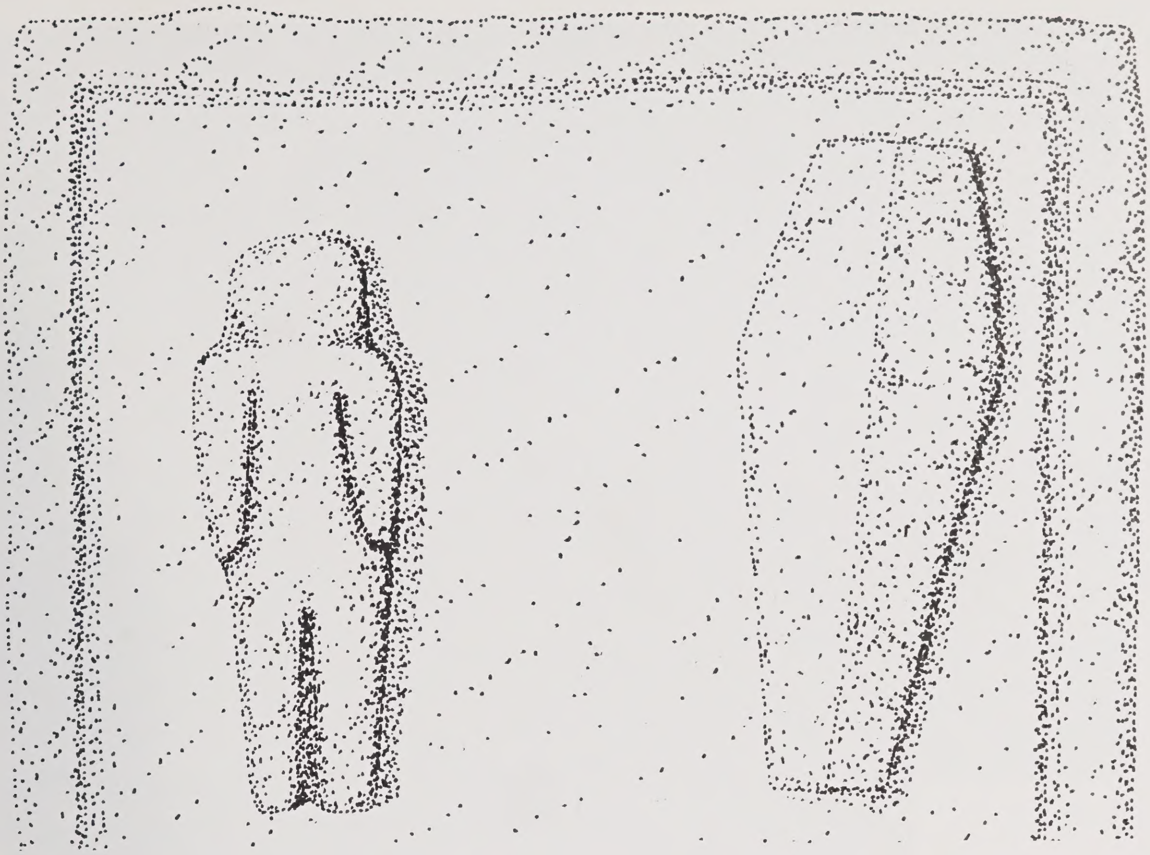


Figure 1.15 Human figure and casket carved in bas-relief on an undated tomb slab in the Murchison Cemetery, South Plank Road (SR 1007), Carbonton vicinity (Drawn by the author; not to scale)

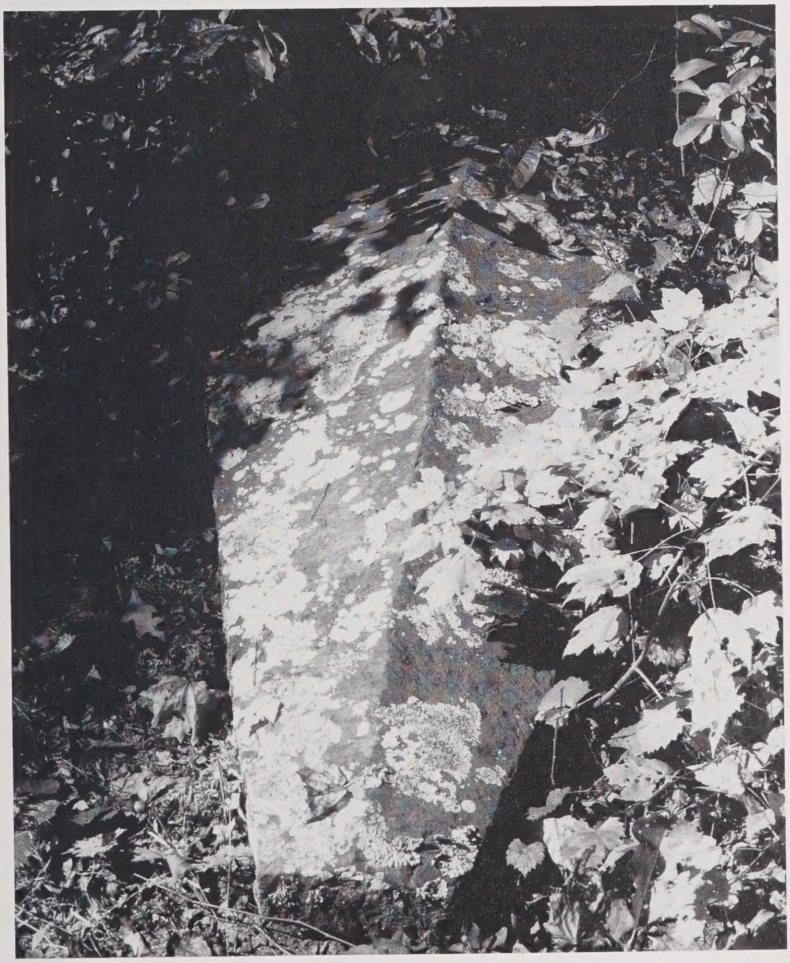
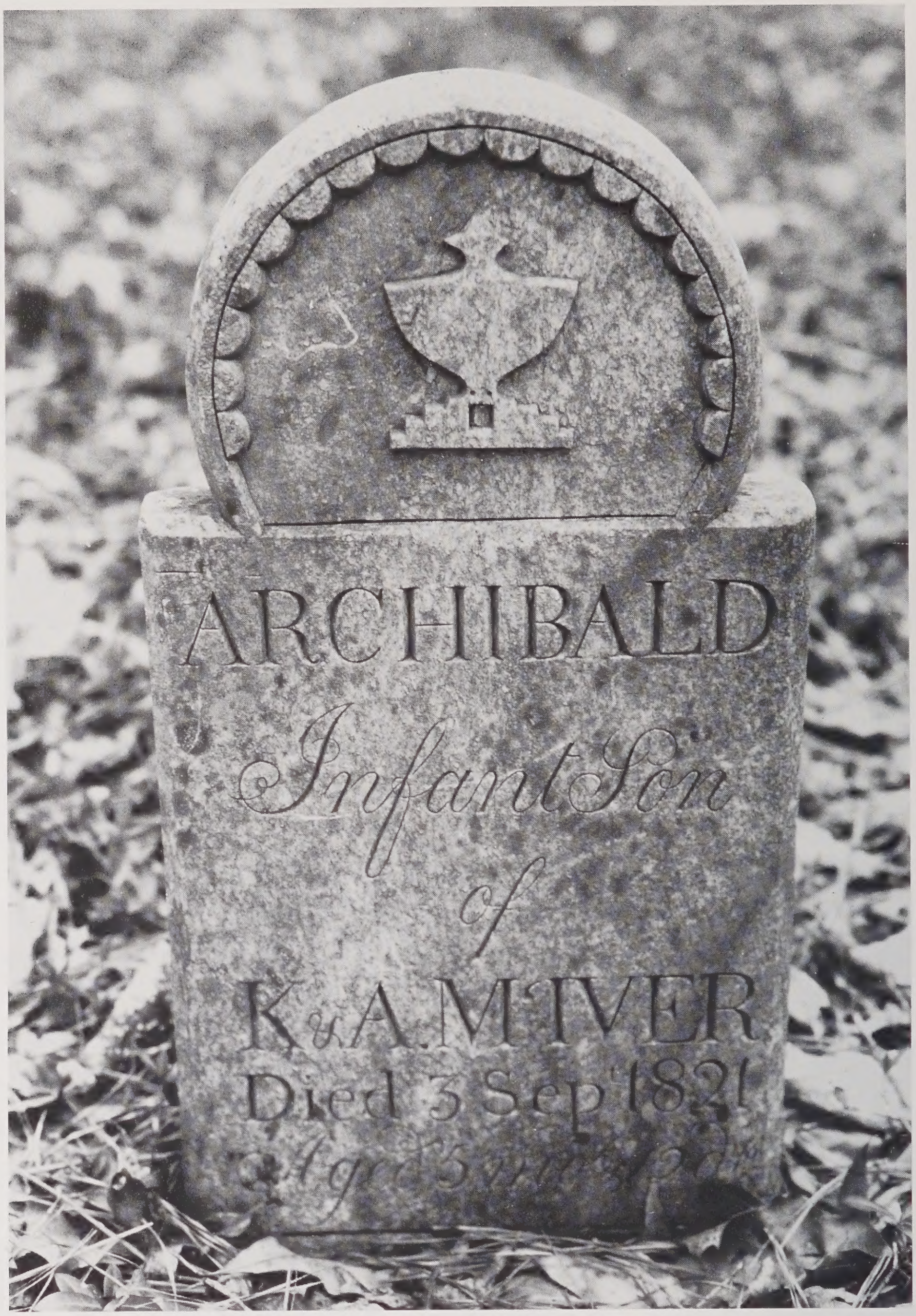


Figure 1.16 Casket monument of Daniel Murchison (d. 1788), Murchison Cemetery

Figure 1.17 Soapstone headstone of Archibald McIver (1821–21), Farrar Cemetery, Carbonton Road (NC 42), Carbonton vicinity



1840s brownstone monuments of Archelaus and Ruth Carloss in the Carloss Cemetery. At the top of the Carloss headstones are small circular recesses bearing six-pointed stars with hearts at their centers, carved in bas-relief. Although this symbolism defies interpretation, it suggests the workings of complex philosophical or theological concepts (Fig. 1.18).

Another notable monument stands in the Cole Cemetery, located off US 15-501 west of Lemon Springs. Erected over the grave of John Cole (d. 1844) is an uncommonly large (three-and-a-half-foot-high) discoid brownstone monument. Above a lengthy poetic inscription is a tree-of-life motif painted onto the stone with tarry, a black pigment that has helped this rare example of North Carolina gravestone painting to survive (Fig. 1.19). John Cole gravestone and others of its era give the early Highland Scot cemeteries a special place in the county's cultural landscape.

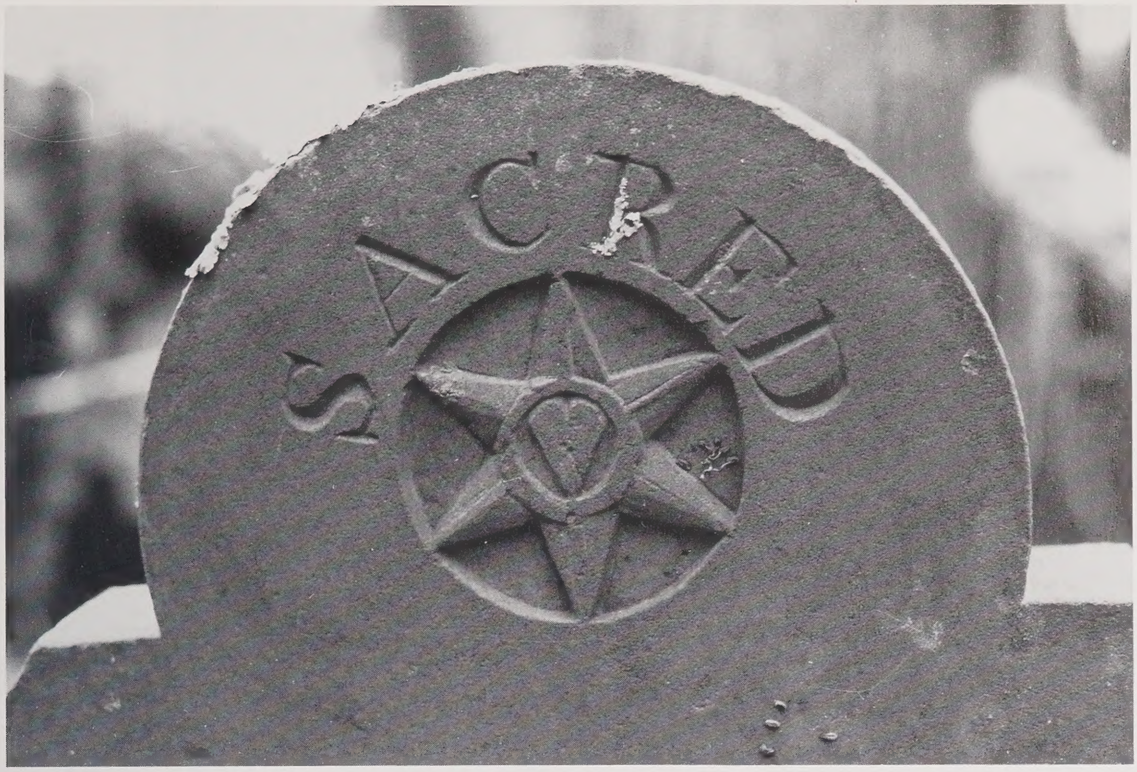


Figure 1.18 Detail of an 1840s headstone in the Carloss Cemetery

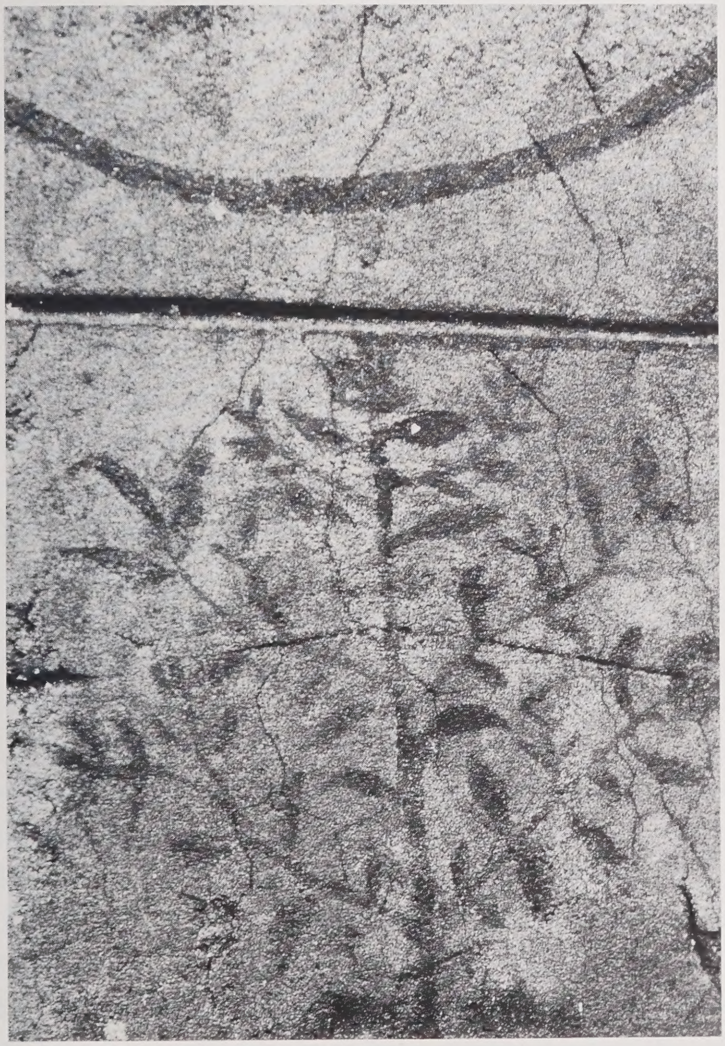


Figure 1.19 Painted decoration on the headstone of John Cole (d. 1844), Cole Cemetery

2 Rivers, Roads, and Rails, 1850–1871

Antebellum well shelter on the John D. McIver farm, Windmill Drive, Sanford

The Highland Scots who immigrated to Lee County in the late 1700s and early 1800s came in hope of finding a better life. But as the nineteenth century progressed, new territories opened for settlement to the south and west, enticing many early settlers to leave Lee County and its impoverished soils. Just as extended family groups had left Scotland for the upper Cape Fear, whole communities now pulled up stakes. In 1830, Presbyterian minister Murdock McMillan led one group of families from the Carbonton vicinity to greener pastures in Madison County, Tennessee.[1] Other areas of North Carolina experienced a similar loss of population and capital; during the 1830s, the state's population growth slowed to a sluggish 2 percent.[2]

This pattern had begun to change by midcentury. North Carolina's political and business leaders embarked on an ambitious program of transportation improvements in a successful effort to stimulate the state's economy. Lee County's geographic location allowed it to benefit directly from these developments. Its position on the Cape Fear river system placed it in the path of navigation improvements. Railroad interests were attracted to the Deep River Coal Fields, located on the county's northern edge, and the estimated 2.5-million-acre timberlands of the Sandhills spreading to the south and west. The Fayetteville & Western Plank Road bordered the county's piney southern quadrant, opening the area to development (Fig. 2.1).

First came the plank roads, surfaced with thick wood planks that raised wagon wheels out of mud and sand. The roads were nicknamed "farmer's railroads," for unlike true railroads, plank roads allowed farmers to haul their produce to market themselves. The most renowned of the plank roads was the Fayetteville & Western, which connected the state's Piedmont breadbasket with the port of Fayetteville on the Cape Fear (Fig. 2.2). Called the "Appian Way of North Carolina," it was constructed along the present southern border of the county between 1850 and 1852.[3] Land values along the F&W increased as lumber and naval stores began to stream out of the area's once inaccessible pine forests.[4] Toll houses were built at intervals along the road, and large landowner Dougald McDougald constructed a hotel near the southern tip of the county. McDougald experienced a series of financial reversals that doomed his hotel project, which became known locally as McDougald's Folly.[5]

In 1853, work was completed on a branch plank road that extended up the present western edge of the county to Gulf, a course now followed by SR 1007 (Fig. 2.3). This route may have followed in part the earlier Connor Road, established by Connor Dowd in the 1700s.[6] According to one account, the branch was built by a New Yorker named Schermerhorn, probably the Uriah Schermerhorn who operated an inn on the Moore County side of the South Plank Road.[7] The now-vanished community of Chalmersville developed during the 1850s around the Schermerhorn Inn at the junction of the main F&W line and the branch to Gulf.[8] Another plank road (never completed) led from Gulf to Alamance County.[9]

In 1854, a writer to the *Fayetteville Observer* reported, "The branch road from the 33 mile post to Gulf, is in perfect order, and is decidedly the best constructed Plank Road I ever saw. The route is excellent, mostly upon a ridge, with very slight grades."[10] Another plank road

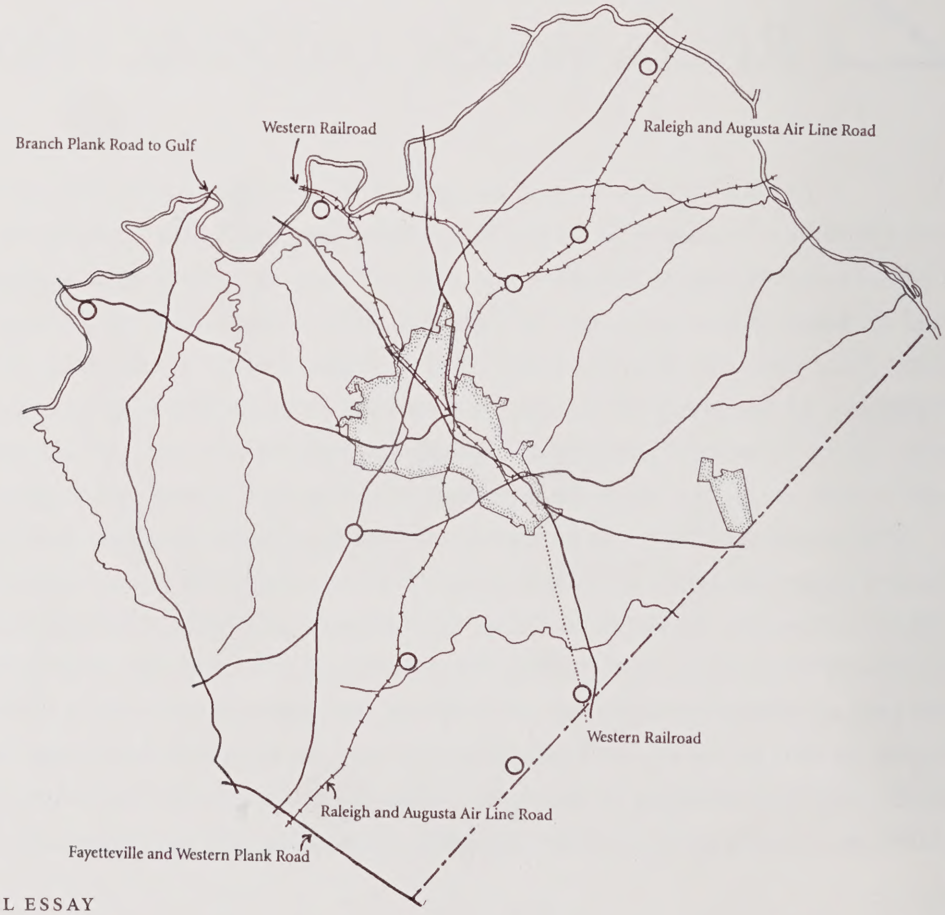

Branch Plank Road to Gulf
Western Railroad
Raleigh and Augusta Air Line Road
Western Railroad
Raleigh and Augusta Air Line Road
Fayetteville and Western Plank Road

Figure 2.1 Principal nineteenth-century roads and railroads in Lee County.

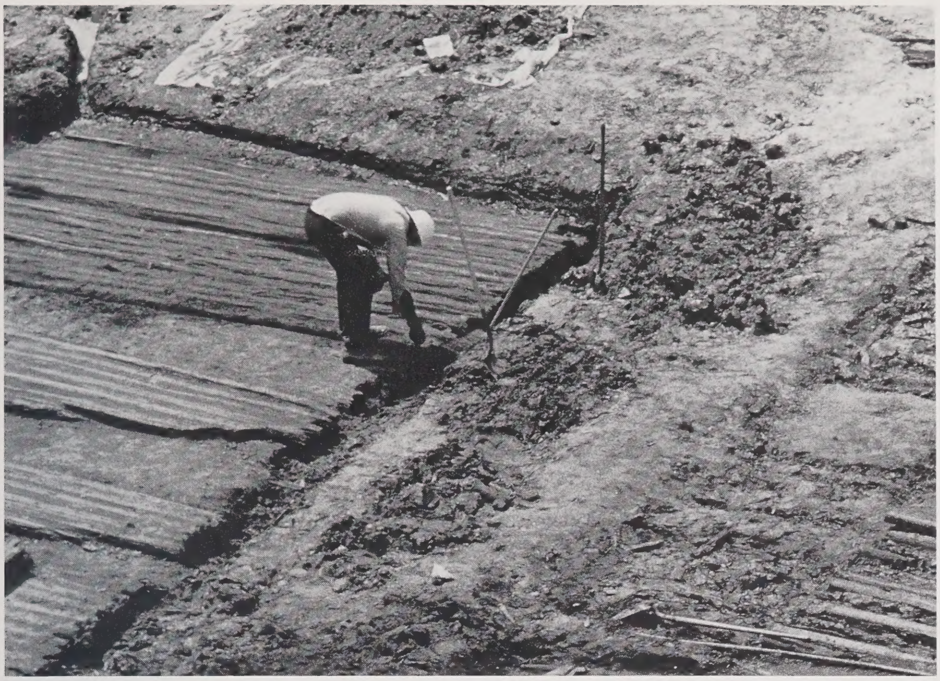


Figure 2.2 A section of the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road revealed in downtown Fayetteville during the 1980s (Photo by Cindy Burnham, courtesy of the *Fayetteville Observer-Times*)

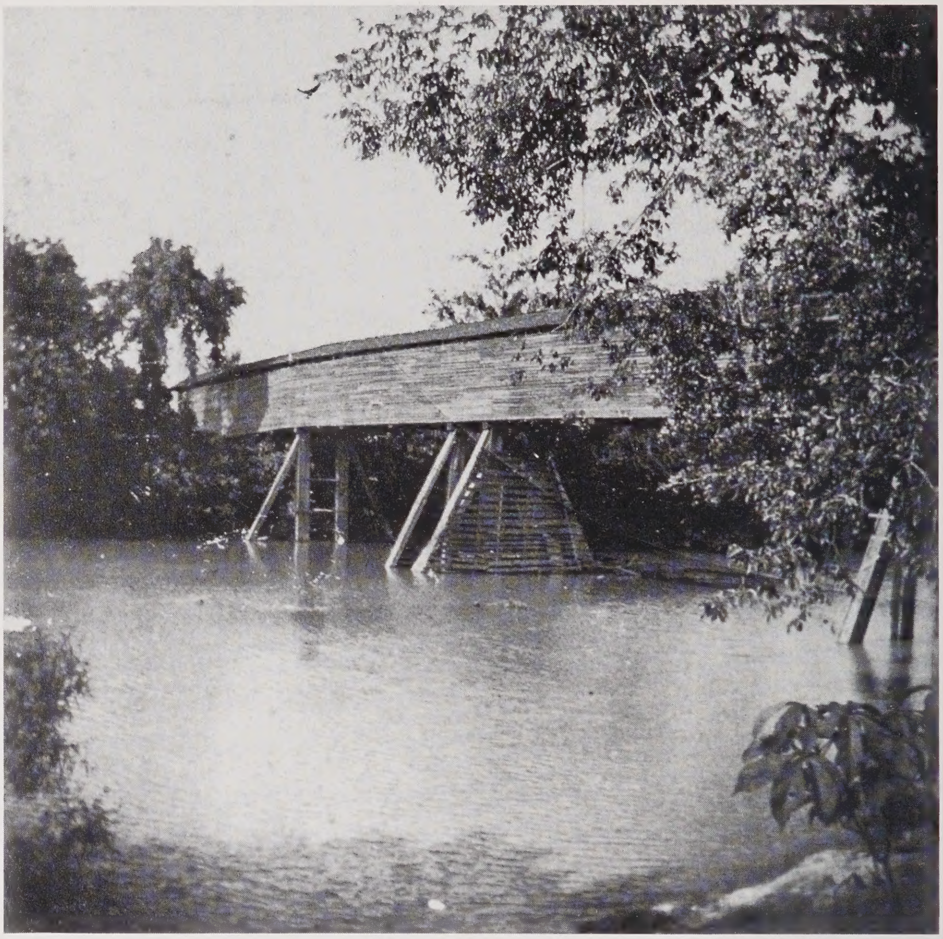
branched off to Carbonton, stimulating development in that community, and a plank road from Raleigh to Haywood may have extended into the northeastern tip of the county by the 1860s.[11] The county's plank roads were paralleled by dirt roads that served as turnouts. It was said that "when two wagons met on the road it was the rule that the man going down hill should take his team off the planks, leaving the better road for the team which had to pull up the hill."[12]

Ever since the formation of the Cape Fear Company in 1792, regional leaders had struggled to improve the Cape Fear and Deep rivers for safe and dependable navigation. They tried again in 1849, chartering the Cape Fear & Deep River Navigation Company.[13] Almost immediately, the CF&DR commenced building locks and dams near Fayetteville and at Pullen's Falls near present-day Moncure on the Deep River.[14] In 1852, the company's northern contractors planned to recruit 125 German laborers from New York, part of an expected total workforce of 500 men. Black slaves, hired or purchased by the company, and Italian, Hungarian, and Slovak workers also worked on the project.[15] By 1853, work was underway at Buckhorn Falls at the eastern tip of Lee County.

The company's locks and dams were constructed of timber cribbing packed with rubble. The dams evidently featured canted upstream sides sheathed in wood planking that was attached with iron spikes to a rock-filled superstructure of vertical posts and horizontal purlins. The works at Buckhorn Falls, nearly completed by July 1852, were described as consisting of "one guard lock and two left locks, a canal a half mile long, four sloo dams, connecting together a chain of islands, forming an inner navigation, including the canal of about 1½ miles, and a dam over the main river at the head of the Falls."[16]

In February 1853, Pittsboro businessman Maurice D. Waddell informed a correspondent, "Our people here are so much distracted with the prospect of mineral wealth and the opening [of] the River that Plank Roads seem to sink *into insignificance*."[17] The following year he added, "I learn the steamer John H. Haughton will be at Haywood [across the Deep River in present

Figure 2.3 Covered bridge at Gulf, before 1920. A bridge probably similar in appearance to this one was built to carry a plank road over the Deep River in the early 1850s. (Courtesy of Nancy M. Griffin)



Chatham County] 1st of February and will take down coal and rosin and other thing[s] her first trip to Wilmington."[18] By 1857, the Dungan, Cartwright & Company of Philadelphia was erecting locks and rock-filled crib dams on the Deep River, and in 1859 the "shrill notes of the steamer's whistle [reverberated] among the hills and valleys of the Deep River coal fields" as the first shipment of coal and iron passed down the rivers from Egypt.[19]

But despite its eventual success in reaching the coalfield, the CF&DR suffered financial problems, and its facilities were repeatedly damaged by floods. According to one account, "The failure of these works was partly due to bad engineering in the location of the dams, it being difficult to secure their ends against the action of freshets."[20] During and after the Civil War the company's improvements deteriorated rapidly. Log rafters, who had used the rivers since the beginning of settlement, had never liked the company's dams, and by 1867 they had made openings in them for their rafts.[21] In 1872–74, the navigation works were restored to service between Buckhorn Falls and Lee County's Endor Iron Furnace so that iron ore from the Buckhorn vicinity of Harnett County could be transported to Endor, but in 1876, when iron making ceased, the locks and dams were abandoned.[22]

Ultimately, the railroad had the greatest effect on the nineteenth-century economic development of Lee County, although at first rail prospects were dim. The earliest scheme to affect the area was the proposed Fayetteville & Western Railroad, chartered in 1837 but abandoned in the early 1840s—partly because of the "poverty of the country through which [the road] would pass."[23] The directors of the Fayetteville & Western Railroad instead turned their attention to plank roads, chartering the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road.[24]

The first line successfully built into Lee County was the Western Railroad, chartered in December 1852 to connect Fayetteville and the Deep River Coal Field, and sometimes referred to as the Fayetteville & Coal Field Railroad or simply the Coal Field Railroad. In 1853, the railroad company retained the New York engineering firm of J. P. Goodsell to survey its line, but construction work was stalled until 1858 by disagreements between local backers and the New York financiers who had obtained control of the road. State financing in 1859 enabled the company to push forward, and in the fall of 1860 the line was completed to Evander McIver's plantation on Big Buffalo Creek. McIver's Depot was established at this location, and workers began blasting the McIver Cut through a brownstone ridge that lay between the depot and the village of Egypt, recently established at the heart of the coal field. Although some coal was being hauled to McIver's Depot and transported over the line by December 1861, Confederate authorities considered it imperative that work be completed to Egypt and consequently provided assistance to the railroad's owners. In September 1863, the Western Railroad finished its line to Egypt; over the course of the following year, a depot and water tank were completed and a turnout and trestles were constructed at the mine shaft by Joseph Morris and other contractors.[25]

Damaged in March 1865 during Sherman's sweep through the area south of Lee County, in 1867 the Western Railroad reopened between Fayetteville and Egypt. Coal production boomed over the following years; in 1869, thirty-nine rail cars were devoted exclusively to carrying Egypt coal to the port at Fayetteville.[26] The Western Railroad was reorganized as the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway Company in 1879, the same year it completed a four-mile extension from Egypt to Gulf. In later years, the CF&YV extended to Greensboro and Wilmington, providing enhanced shipping facilities to Lee County farmers and industrialists.[27]

Raleigh entrepreneurs were keenly aware of the profits the Fayetteville-based Western Railroad stood to gain from Deep River coal. In 1855, they chartered the Chatham Railroad and planning began for the construction of a line from Raleigh to Gulf. As originally projected, the road would have also linked Raleigh to the navigation works on the Deep River. The line was built into the area by 1870, but it took a more southerly route through the center of Lee County toward the vast timber reserves of the Sandhills.[28] In 1871, the Chatham Railroad—reorganized as the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line Railroad—connected to the Western Railroad at a point northwest of Jonesboro. According to tradition, the R&A was projected to intersect the Western Railroad at Jonesboro, but when a landowner near the town refused to sell right-of-way for a reasonable sum, the railroad ran its line farther north.[29] A new town—Sanford—developed at the junction. The R&A, which was controlled by the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad Company, reached the North Carolina–South Carolina line in 1877.[30]

The navigation works and railroads that penetrated Lee County during the antebellum period focused on one main objective: opening the Deep River Coal Field to commercial exploitation. This field—traditionally the only economically viable coal deposit in North Carolina—extends across the northern part of Lee County and the southern part of Chatham County, roughly paralleling the Deep River (Fig. 2.4). Pioneer ironmaster John Willcox is credited with the first attempt to develop the coalfield, in the 1770s, and coal pits were worked by local blacksmiths over the following years. Peter Evans, owner of the Egypt plantation (at present-day Cumnock), is believed to have mined coal on a small scale beginning in 1830.[31] According to tradition, Egypt was so named after a local farmer came to Evans's plantation to buy corn during a period of drought, just as the ancient Israelites had become dependent on the Pharaoh's storehouses during a period of similar hardship.

At midcentury, interest in the Deep River Coal Field mounted. Brooks Harris, owner of the Egypt property, in 1852 sank a mine shaft to a depth of 460 feet in order to open the field to commercial exploitation.[32] In February 1853, the Harris coal prospects, timberlands, and other improvements on both sides of the Deep River were purchased for $30,000 by New York financier Thomas Andrews.[33] Accompanied by geologist Charles T. Jackson of Boston, Andrews visited his mine in April 1853, and Jackson returned in the summer to make a more detailed investigation of the property.[34]

Andrews and his concern, the Governor's Creek Steam Transportation & Mining Company, retained Irish-born engineer William McClane as their agent.[35] McClane, "favorably known as an enterprising pioneer in all the improvements proposed upon Deep River," had a workforce of fifty hands digging a 350-foot-deep shaft at Egypt in February 1854.[36] By 1856, the Governor's Creek company had constructed a permanent mining complex with machinery powered by a forty-horsepower steam engine. In February 1856, the *Fayetteville Observer* reported that William McClane's miners had penetrated to a thick vein of coal at a depth of over four hundred feet (Fig. 2.5). The paper urged the swift completion of the Western Railroad to the mine—"to accomplish that object every nerve should be strained"—and noted that one survey of the road passed within two hundred feet of the mine shaft.[37]

During this initial flush of excitement, state geologist Ebenezer Emmons prophesied, "Somewhere on Deep River, there remains to be built a CITY greater than Lowell."[38] Residents of the Evans Mills vicinity upstream from Egypt hoped that their community would develop into the metropolis envisioned by Emmons. Lots were laid out, stores were established, and the village

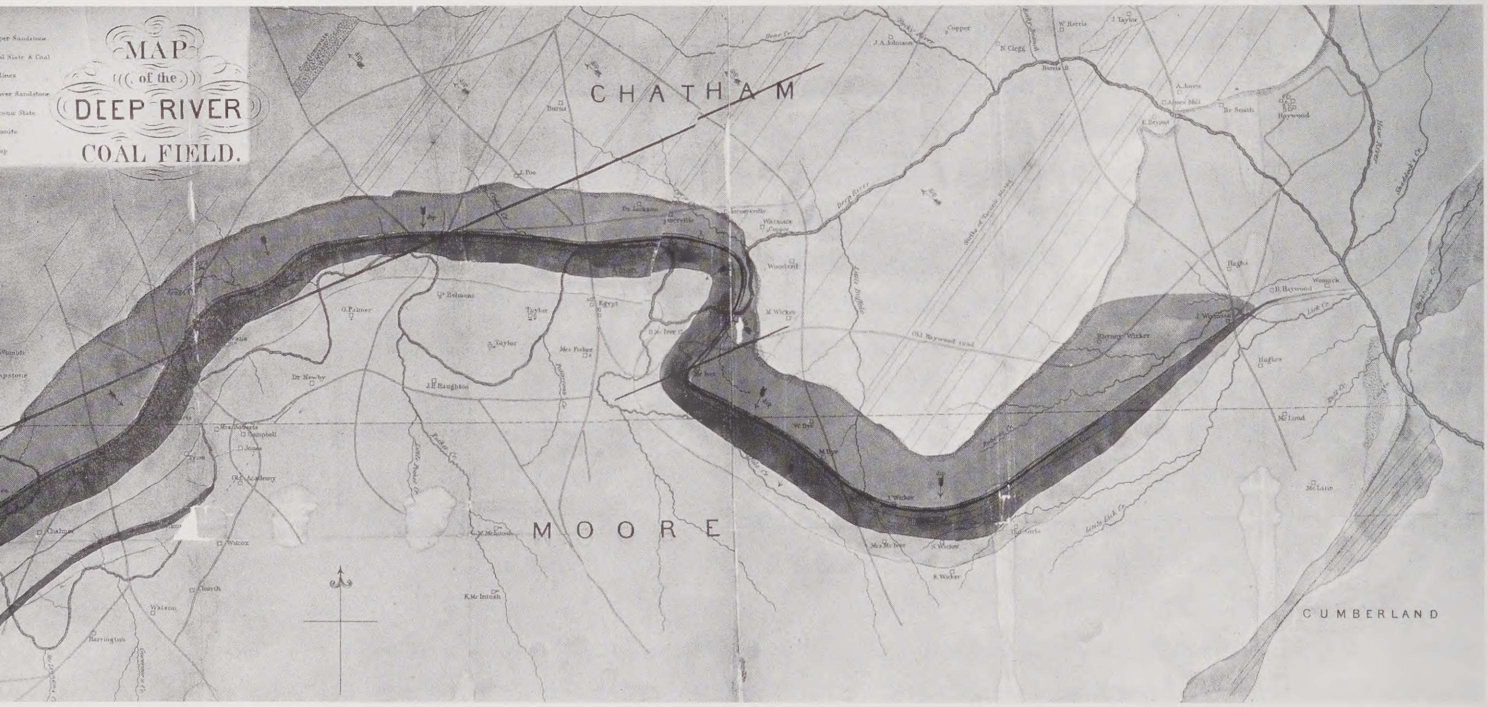


Figure 2.4 "Map of the Deep River Coal Field," 1859. The map shows geological formations, watercourses, roads, farmsteads, and the village of Egypt in northern Lee County (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

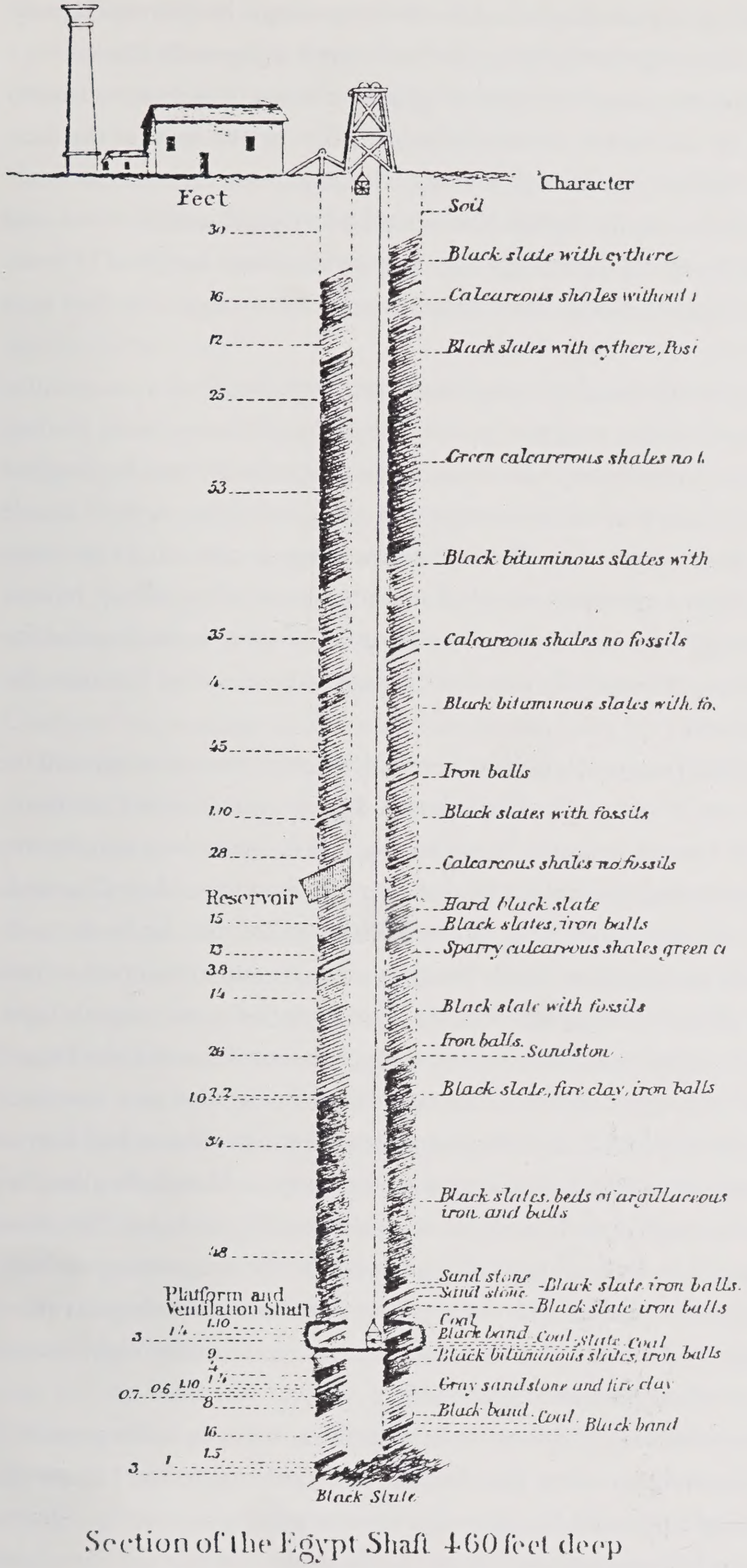

Character
Feet
Soil
30
Black slate with cythere
16
Calcareous shales without
12
Black slates with cythere, Posi
25
Green calcareous shales no
53
Black bituminous slates with
35
Calcareous shales no fossils
4
Black bituminous slates with fo.
45
Iron balls
1.10
Black slates with fossils
28
Calcareous shales no fossils
Reservoir
Hard black slate
15
Black slates, iron balls
13
Sparry calcareous shales green c
3.8
14
Black slate with fossils
26
Iron balls. Sandston
1.0 3.2
Black slate, fire clay, iron balls
34
Black slates, beds of argillaceous iron and balls
48
Sand stone
Sand stone
Black slate iron balls.
Black slate iron balls
Platform and Ventilation Shaft
1.10
3
14
Coal
Black band
Coal
Slate
Coal
9
Black bituminous slates, iron balls
4
14
1.10
0.6
0.7
Gray sandstone and fire clay
8
Black band
Coal
Black band
16
1.5
1
3
Black Slate
Section of the Egypt Shaft 460 feet deep

Figure 2.5 "Section of the Egypt Shaft 460 feet deep," late 1850s (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) of Carbonton came into being.[39] A branch plank road reached the village, and Cyrus Harrington established the Carbonton Academy, both during the heady years of the early 1850s.

The antebellum mining community that developed at Egypt was home to as many as seventy individuals in 1860, according to the federal census of that year. Two miners lived at the location—Alexander McCaa and William McColough—along with engineers, laborers, and carpenters. Several individuals hailed from the British Isles, specifically Ireland and Scotland, and two families were natives of Germany. Of the foreign-born population, most had lived in Pennsylvania or New York before coming to North Carolina in the mid-1850s, suggesting they were recruited by the New York owners of the Egypt mine.

One of Egypt's more distinguished residents was Abram Van Wyck Budd, who came to the community in 1855. A New Jersey native educated at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, Budd worked as the mine's physician. He married Anna Catherine Bryan, the daughter of local planter Elias Bryan, and later served as a surgeon in the Confederate army.[40] Budd's skills were put to the test on several occasions. The first of the many documented explosions that were to plague the Deep River coal mines occurred in March 1856, killing eleven miners. Other deadly explosions apparently occurred during the decade.[41] The 1860 census counted five unoccupied dwellings at the mine, evidence of a slowdown associated with either the mine disasters or broader economic factors.

The onset of war improved Egypt's prospects, as the Confederate government recognized the strategic importance of its few coal reserves. The Confederate navy contracted with Charleston, South Carolina merchant James Browne for a steady coal supply, and in December 1862, Browne formed a partnership with Fayetteville businessman and Western Railroad president Charles B. Mallett to mine coal at Egypt. In September 1863, after the Western Railroad had been completed to Egypt, Mallett & Browne agreed to supply the government with 30,000 tons of coal per year at $25 a ton. By early 1864, the company had sixty-three "detailed men" (eligible fighting men exempted from military duty) at work at the mine, supplemented by over forty Federal prisoners of war and an unknown number of slaves. The majority of the detailed men were local residents; several, such as shaftman Edward McKiernan and carpenter John Shane, had been at the mine in 1860. Of the Federal prisoners, James Browne complained in March 1864 that "we now [have] as many green and inexperienced hands as we could possibly manage." The slaves were hired from local planters and housed in log dwellings. As before the war, mining was dangerous; an explosion in 1863 shut the mine down and resulted in the loss of perhaps as many as fifty lives. The mine was again operational by 1864, and on May 3, 1864, fifty-eight tons of coal—a one-day record—were mined from the Egypt shaft.[42]

Mallett & Browne transported the coal by rail car to Fayetteville and thence by barge to Wilmington. In addition to the Confederate navy, the company supplied coal to the Fayetteville Arsenal, state agencies in the Carolinas and Georgia, and various private companies. Charles Mallett used Egypt coal to make kerosene and as fuel for the production of railroad car wheels at his foundry in Fayetteville. In the last years of the war he developed the Ocknock Iron Works near Buckhorn Falls in northern Harnett County, provisioned from the Western Railroad depot at Jonesboro.[43]

By war's end, the Confederate navy relied increasingly on Egypt coal; coalfields near Richmond and Chattanooga were either in Union hands or inaccessible due to fighting, and the

Montevallo field in Alabama was too far distant from Confederate navy vessels and blockade runners at Wilmington. Egypt coal was disliked, though, because the excessive smoke it produced made steam-powered vessels easier to detect. According to one account, scarce Welsh coal was used at Wilmington when Federal ships were in the vicinity, and Egypt coal when there was less threat of capture.[44] This was not always possible, however, and one of the more famous casualties of Egypt coal was the blockade runner *Advance*, captured on September 10, 1864.[45] The Egypt coal mine served the Confederacy in one other way. In March 1865, as Sherman's forces closed in on Fayetteville, gun-making machinery from the Fayetteville Arsenal was hidden in the mine.[46]

Coal was not the only product mined in Lee County during the late antebellum period; copper ore prospects were exploited on both the present Lee County and Chatham County sides of the Deep River.[47] The largest copper mine was that of Nathaniel Clegg on Copper Mine Creek in the county's northern quadrant, apparently first worked in the 1850s. Clegg may have developed the mine with the assistance of Elias Bryan, entrepreneur James T. Foster of New York, and J. J. Jackson of Pittsboro. "The vein is more than ten feet in thickness and exceedingly rich at the depth of seventy five feet," Foster wrote of the mine in June 1853, suggesting that a bore hole or shaft had already been sunk.[48] In 1860, the mine was sold for $25,000 to John Wilkes, a Charlotte businessman and head of the Mecklenburg Iron Works.[49]

Ultimately more important than coal and copper mining to Lee County's antebellum inhabitants was the collecting and processing of naval stores. The production of naval stores—tar, pitch, and turpentine—flourished in North Carolina's forests from initial settlement until the destruction of the last longleaf pine stands early in the twentieth century. In piney Lee County, situated on the natural highway of the Cape Fear, naval stores production was an important early activity. The construction of plank roads and railroads through the area further stimulated production. Chalmersville, located at the junction of the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road and the branch road to Gulf, and Jonesboro and Swann's Station, located on the Western Railroad, were important naval stores collection points around the time of the Civil War.[50] Yet despite indications of significant naval stores production in the county, the industry did not achieve its fullest development before the Civil War. Ebenezer Emmons wrote in 1854 that the area's "forests of long leafed pine are as yet uninjured," and a traveler passing through the virgin forests of western Lee County noted in 1859 that few pines had come under production.[51]

By 1860, over a dozen white or free black turpentine workers resided in the section of Moore County that became Lee County.[52] None seem to have been listed in the federal census of that year for the Chatham County section—the more northerly, deciduous third of present Lee County—although some residents of the Blacknel community participated in the industry after the war.[53] The largest turpentine farmer listed in the 1860 census was F. J. Swann, who claimed to own 1,525 acres along the present Lee-Harnett line near Swann's Station, his siding on the Western Railroad. With thirty-five slaves in 1860, Swann was probably the county's third largest resident slaveholder. Before and after the Civil War, census statistics and business directories indicate that from three to six turpentine distilleries operated in Lee County during a given year.

Lumbering was another forest industry of importance to the Lee County economy during the mid-1800s, although the phenomenal growth of the industry at the end of the century was to dwarf all preceding activity. In addition, lumbering opened up increasingly larger acreages

Figure 2.6 (opposite, above) Possible slave dwelling (ca. 1855) located behind the Wesley and Jane C. McIver House, 2614 Buffalo Church Road (SR 1153), Sanford

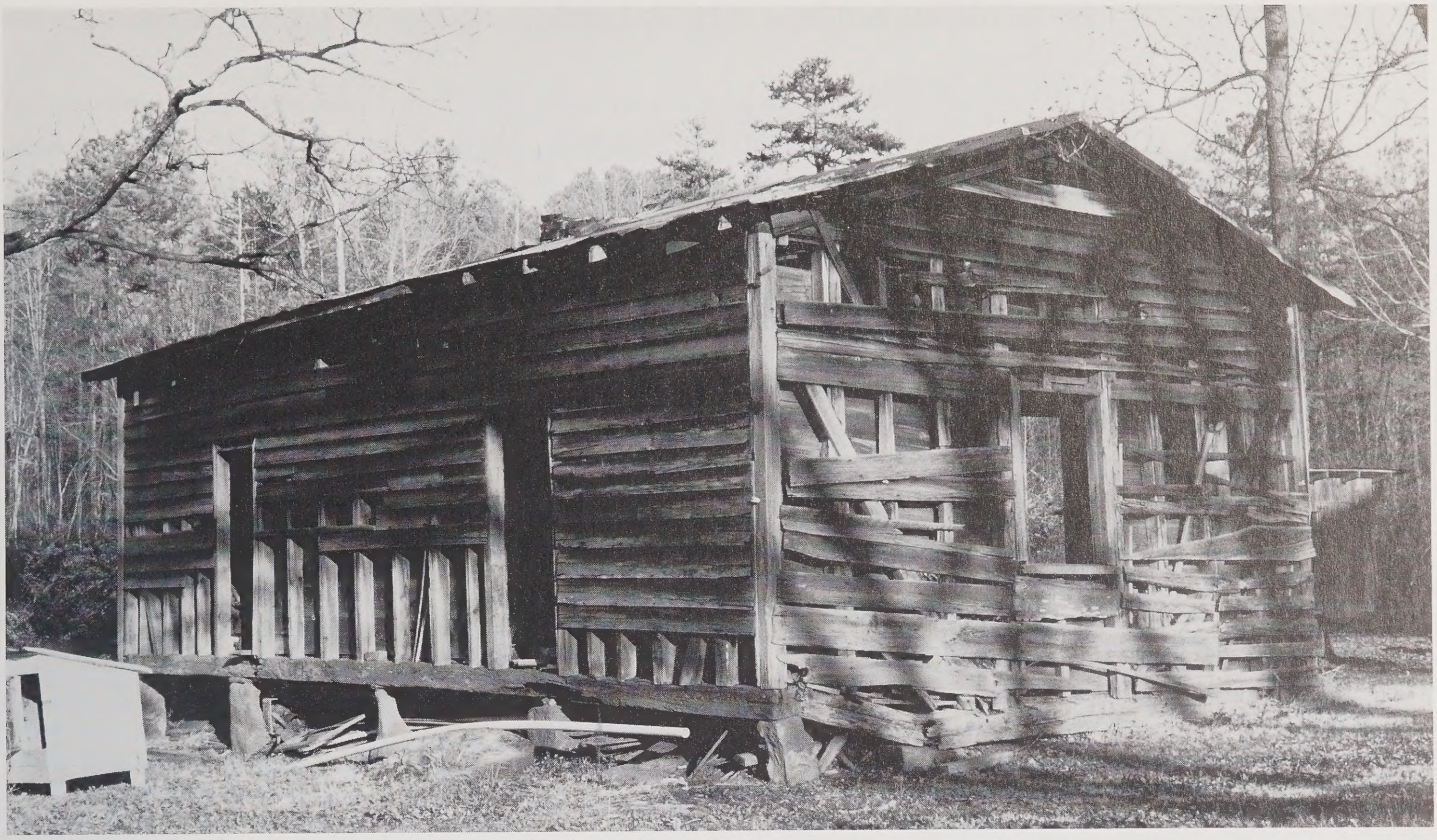
to cultivation. By the 1850s, the rich bottomland of the lower Deep River Valley was described as "generally cleared of its timber, and . . . under cultivation."[54]

Large-scale cotton production commenced on the rich bottomlands along the Cape Fear and Deep rivers during the late antebellum period. One source dates the local introduction of cotton as a cash crop to about 1850.[55] Cotton cultivation was encouraged by the availability of rail and improved river transport, the adoption of improved agricultural techniques, and the accelerated clearance of woodlands. Elias Bryan, Evander McIver, and other large landowners employed their slaves to raise cotton in quantity. The 1860 industrial census lists a single cotton gin in the area that became Lee County, but in reality there were probably several.[56] Cotton cultivation expanded after the Civil War, and by 1877 fourteen cotton gins were listed for the county.[57]

It was in the cotton fields and turpentine "orchards," on the construction crews of transportation improvements, and in the kitchen and at the table of the master and mistress that Lee County's African-Americans spent their working hours before the Civil War. Elias Bryan, the county's largest slaveowner in 1860, employed many of his sixty slaves in the cultivation of his 3,000-acre holding on the Deep River near Blacknel.[58] Slaves (and many whites as well) also worked in the longleaf pine forests, boxing the pines and "dipping" the collected resin. Not all of Lee County's nonwhite inhabitants were enslaved, though. Members of the free Goins family, classified variously as mulatto or Indian in the censuses, lived and farmed along the waters of Pocket and Little Governor's creeks.[59]

Slave labor made possible the construction of the transportation improvements that transformed the county's antebellum economy. In the early 1850s, because of the "alleged unhealthiness" of the low-lying country along the Cape Fear River, the Cape Fear & Deep River Navigation Company had difficulty persuading white laborers from "upper counties" to work on its improvements between Egypt and Fayetteville. Consequently, the company recruited 180 Germans and Hungarians from New York and supplemented its immigrant workforce with slaves hired from local slaveholders. In 1855, the company purchased forty slaves of its own.[60] Slaves also worked on the construction of the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road and its branches during the early 1850s. Contractors on the Western Railroad, built through Lee County about 1860, employed large workforces of slave and immigrant Irish laborers. In 1860, railroad contractor J. Q. A. Leach employed forty-six slaves, probably the second largest holding in the county.[61]

Several buildings tentatively identified as slave houses survive in Lee County. The most likely is a one-story frame dwelling that stands behind the 1850s Sanford-area home of Wesley and Jane C. McIver, who owned twelve slaves in 1860.[62] The dwelling has a massive brownstone chimney that divides it into two rooms of roughly equal size, and it features two cooking fireplaces measuring five feet across. The dwelling's antebellum construction, its two-room plan, its cooking fireplaces, and its position behind the main house suggest that it served as the slave quarter (Figs. 2.6, 2.7, 2.8). Behind the mid-nineteenth-century Egypt Big House (also known as the Henszey House) at Egypt/Cumnock stands a small frame building that probably served as the kitchen for the main house and possibly also as the residence of a slave cook. The building is distinguished by its brownstone gable-end wall and its massive brownstone chimney. On the Neil A. McNeill Farm, located on US 1 near the Moore County line, survives a one-story frame building that may originally have functioned as a principal dwelling and later as a kitchen and/or slave quarter. The McNeill building has an unglazed shuttered window, hand-wrought



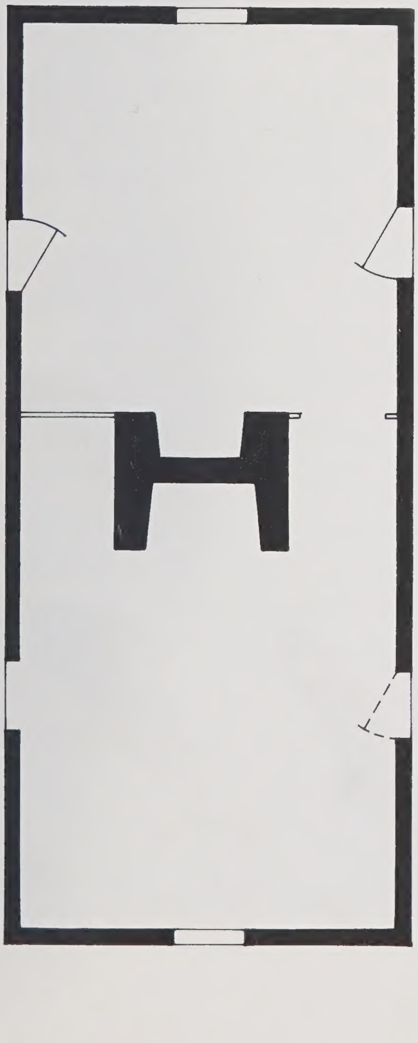


Figure 2.7
Plan of the Wesley and Jane C. McIver slave dwelling (Measured and drawn by the author)

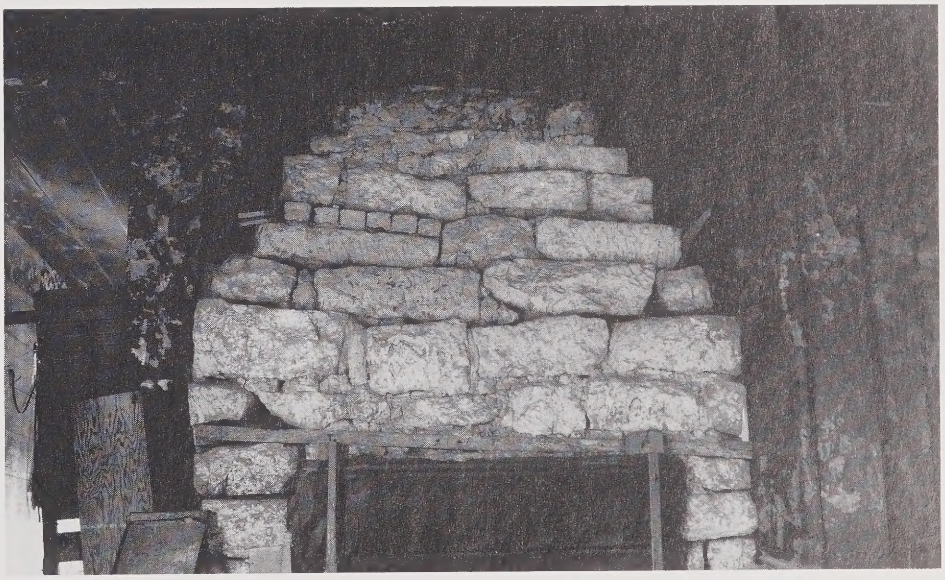


Figure 2.8
Fireplace in the east room of the Wesley and Jane C. McIver slave dwelling

door latches and strap hinges, and beaded ceiling joists, suggesting a date of construction in the early 1800s.

The economic transformation of the late antebellum period translated into an architectural efflorescence. Improved transportation meant improved access to markets for Lee County farm and forest products, which in turn meant more income for landowners. Throughout the area, landowners abandoned earlier dwellings and commissioned frame farmhouses that their builders finished in a local adaptation of the nationally popular Greek Revival style. Approximately forty Greek Revival farmhouses dating from the late 1840s to the 1870s survive in Lee County—more than twice the number of houses believed to survive from the first century of the county's development. The houses range in size from the large, two-story, two-room-deep dwellings of the wealthiest landholders to the relatively modest one-story cottages of smaller or more

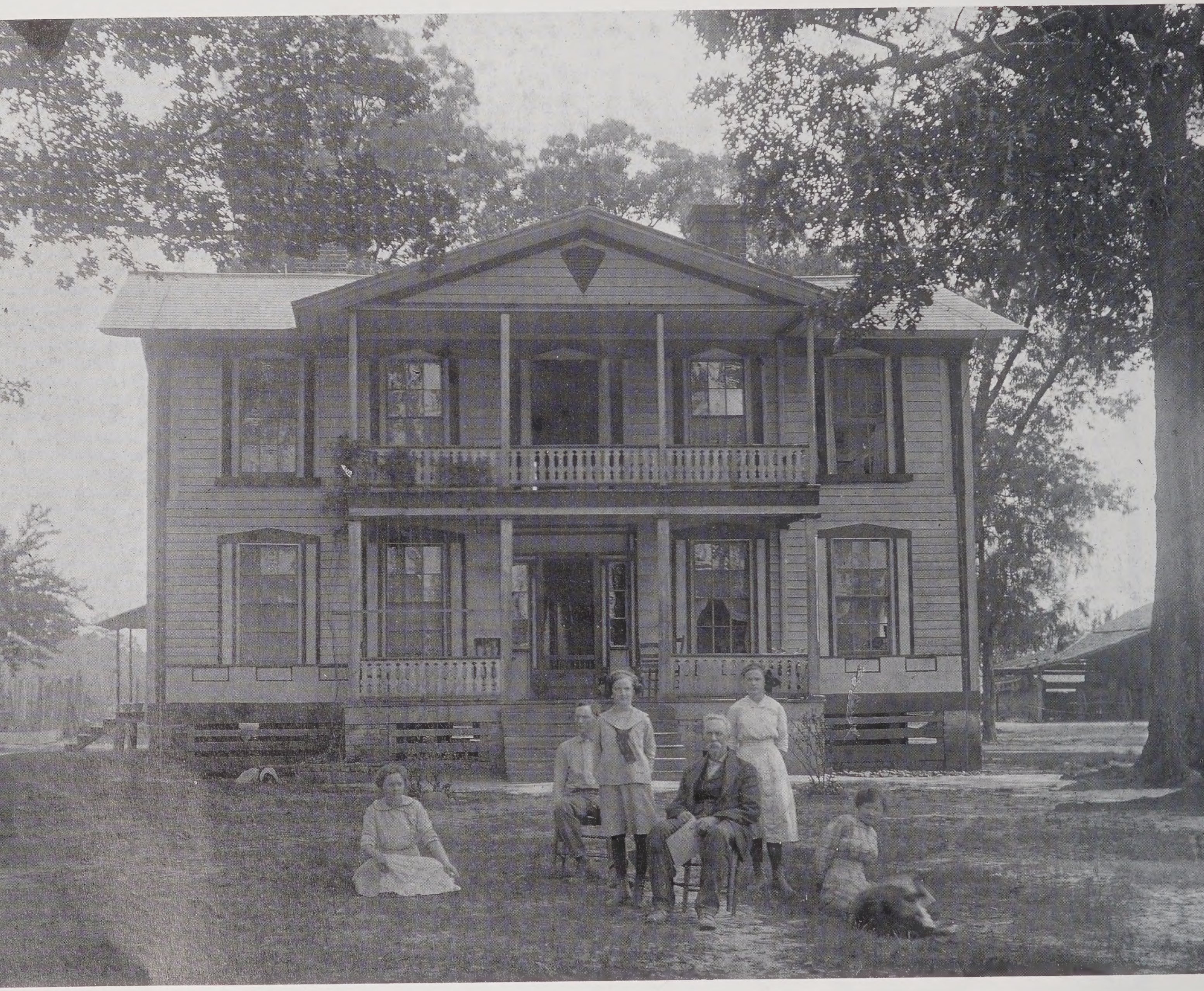


Figure 2.9
The Carbonton Academy Girls Dormitory (1853–54), 5715 Carbonton Road (NC 42), Carbonton vicinity. In this early-twentieth-century view, the paint scheme emphasizes the corner pilasters, peaked window surrounds, and porch wainscot.

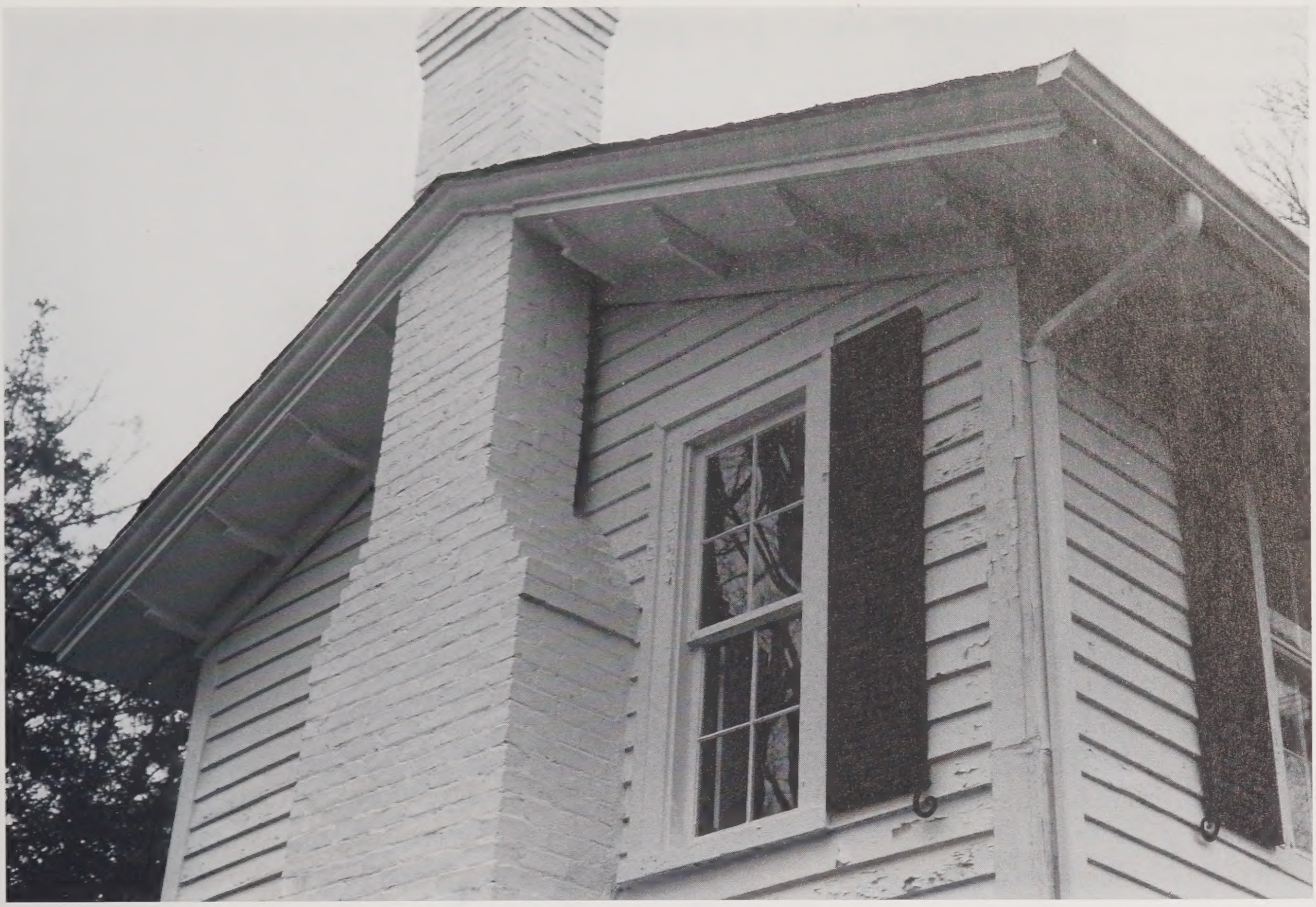


Figure 2.10 Decorative rafter tails and outriggers of the John D. McIver House (ca. 1855), 2007 Windmill Drive, Sanford

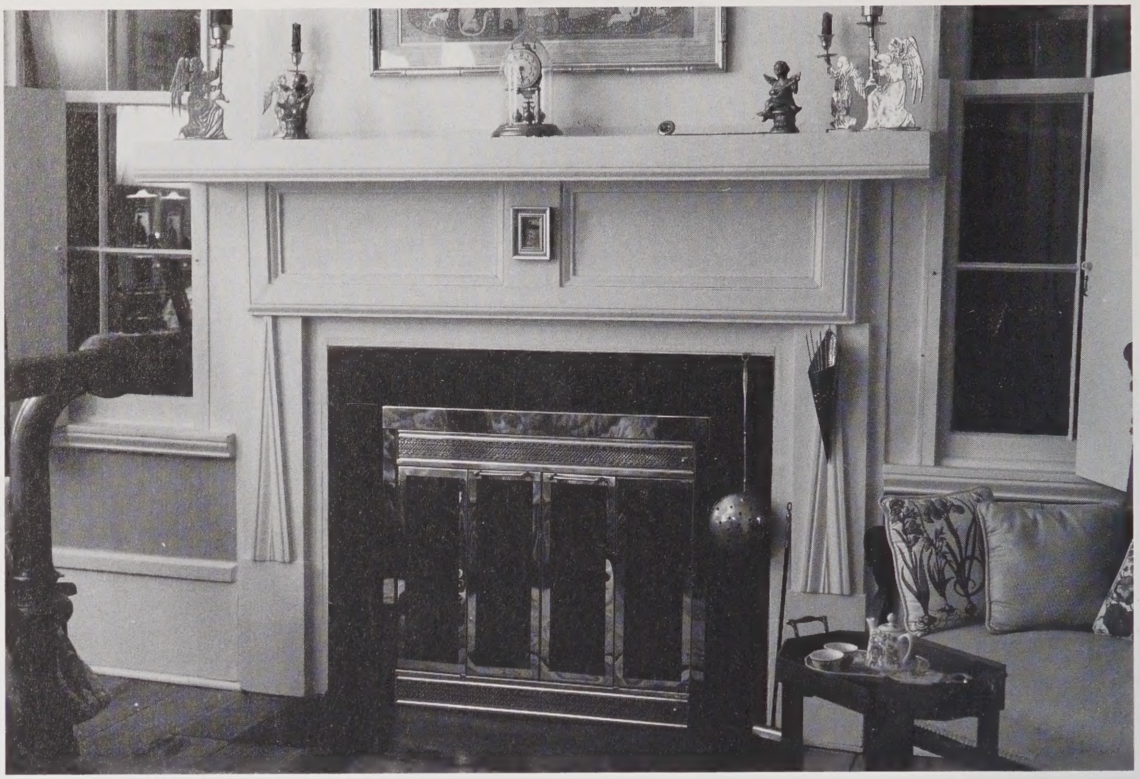
frugal farmers. Their interiors run the gamut of traditional North Carolina floor plans: the hall-parlor plan, the center-passage plan, and various two-room plans. Architectural detailing varies in sophistication from literal interpretations of academic Greek Revival styling to eccentric geometrical arrangements of elements that bear little resemblance to high-style precedents (Fig. 2.9).

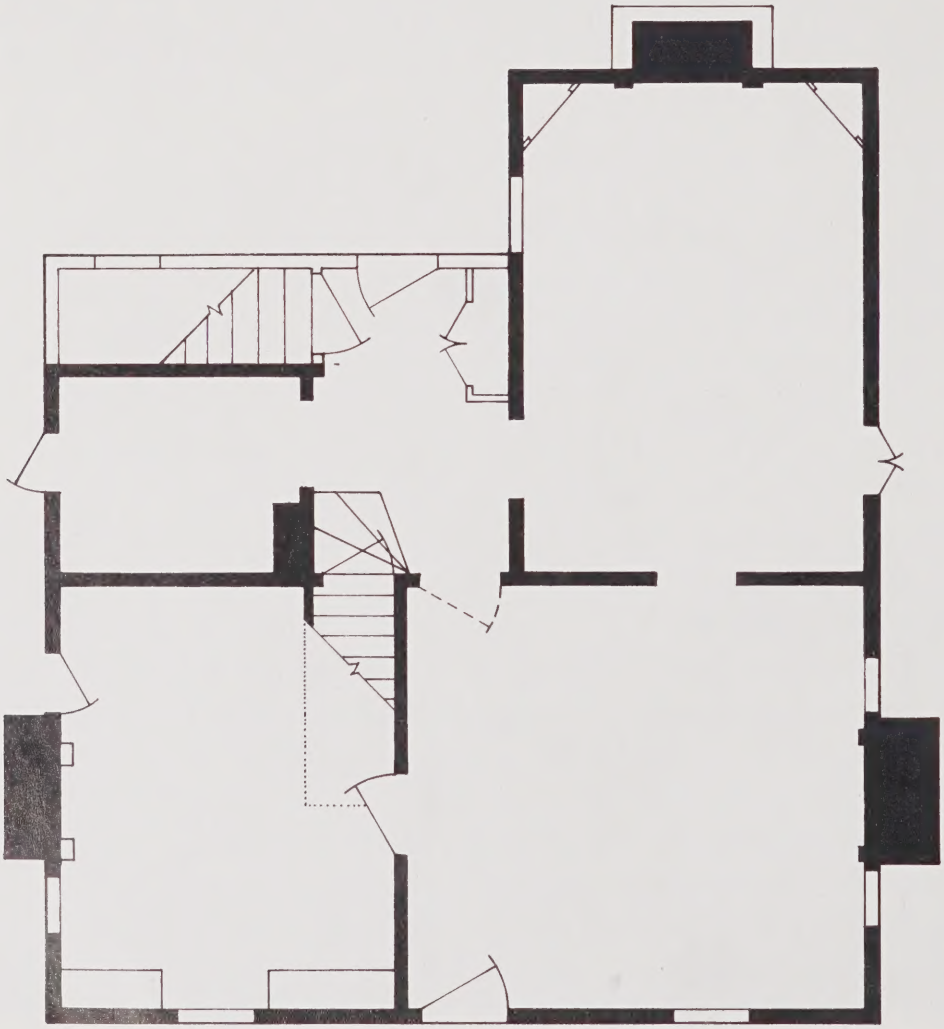
A typical example of the new approach to domestic architecture is the John D. McIver House, built about 1855 on a ridge above Buffalo Creek and now surrounded by Sanford's Westlake Valley subdivision. The two-story house has a symmetrical window-door-window facade, gable-end brick chimneys, and a one-room deep plan—all standard features of North Carolina farmhouses from the 1800s. An unusual exterior treatment is the decorative shaping of the rafter tails and outriggers in the gables and eaves (Fig. 2.10). Other Lee County houses with this treatment are the McIver-Faulk House (ca. 1855), located off NC 87; the William and Jane Dye House (1853), located on Hawkins Avenue in Sanford; and the M. Henry and Sallie H. McIver House (ca. 1867), located on US 421 northwest of Sanford.

Other distinctive Lee County variations on the Greek Revival style appear inside the John D. McIver House. The mantels have curious pilasters that narrow to a point at the top—an exaggeration of the entasis or tapering of the pilasters that visually support a standard Greek Revival mantel (Fig. 2.11). Similar detailing appears in other houses constructed for members of the McIver family and in the Carbonton Academy Girls Dormitory (1853–54) near Carbonton. Also

Figure 2.11 Mantel in the east downstairs room (hall) of the John D. McIver House, showing exaggerated pilaster entasis

Figure 2.12 Plan of the John D. McIver House. The house has a hall-parlor plan with a back-rising stair. (Measured by Ted Lawrence and the author; drawn by the author)





notable is the stair in the John D. McIver House, which rises from what was originally a rear shed room or engaged porch (Fig. 2.12). Similar back-rising stairs are observed at the McIver-Faulk House and the Obediah and Sarah Farrar House (1850s) near Blacknel. (The Tyson House at Carbonton is an early example of this back-rising stair configuration.) Similarities between certain of Lee County's Greek Revival farmhouses suggest that they were built by the same (as yet unidentified) carpenter. Even if several builders were responsible for the county's architecturally related midcentury farmhouses, the evidence supports a shared vernacular approach to Greek Revival styling—a Lee County "school."

The county's Greek Revival farmhouses are also distinguished by individual architectural elements of innovative design. Several houses feature or once featured front porches that are simplified but boldly executed versions of Greek Revival porticos. The original front porch of the John D. McIver House (now in storage on the property) was supported by tapered square wood columns, the tapering of the columns serving as an allusion to the entasis of classical columns.[63] The William and Jane Dye House originally featured a small, one-story front porch with an unusual flared cornice created by stacked fillet moldings. Two buildings—the Egypt Big House (1860s) and the Absalom Kelly Store (ca. 1855), near Broadway—have (or had) porches supported by octagonal columns.

The distinctive Greek Revival styling of Lee County's mid-nineteenth-century farmhouses is joined by another localized tradition in the northeastern quadrant of the county (Fig. 2.13). A group of farmhouses in the Blacknel vicinity feature brick chimneys that appear to be the work of a single accomplished brickmason, or possibly several masons working in the same mode. The defining characteristics of these chimneys are tumbled shoulders or other decorative brickwork and, at the level of the shoulders or above, painted dates that usually appear on a circular or semicircular panel (Fig. 2.14). The earliest examples are the chimneys of the dismantled Isham Rosser House, dated 1846, and the McLeod House, apparently dated 1847. The east chimney of the Rosser House has a wheel-like figure at the top of the stack, with spokes painted in white; the west chimney has a semicircular parged panel set between the shoulders. Especially spirited brickwork appears in the chimneys of the McLeod House. The south chimney has a panel of bricks set in a chevron pattern between tumbled shoulders; the north chimney has a smaller set of chevrons and, below the shoulders, a parabolic relieving arch. The Partridge House, which formerly stood north of Broadway, is said to have had brick chimneys of an unusual color with a "basket-weave" design in the stack, suggesting a relationship to the other houses.[64] Two somewhat more restrained examples of decorative chimneys with (retouched) semicircular date panels are found on the Farrish-Lambeth House, dated 1852, and the Obediah and Sarah Farrar House, which has a partially obliterated 1850s date.

At the height of the county's antebellum prosperity, local builders and their clients developed a stylized architecture of icicle-thin mantel pilasters and virtuoso chimney brickwork, a local tradition that served a local aesthetic. Yet even as this vernacular appropriation of standard Greek Revival forms occurred, the first professionally designed structures were being built in the county. Works of engineering—transportation and industrial structures—were conceived and executed by outside specialists who operated apart from the county's architectural traditions.

Before and during the Civil War, the Western Railroad built trestles, depots, water tanks, and other facilities in the county. The road's contractors generally used timber trestles to

Figure 2.13
Distribution of late-antebellum chimneys with decorative brickwork in Lee County

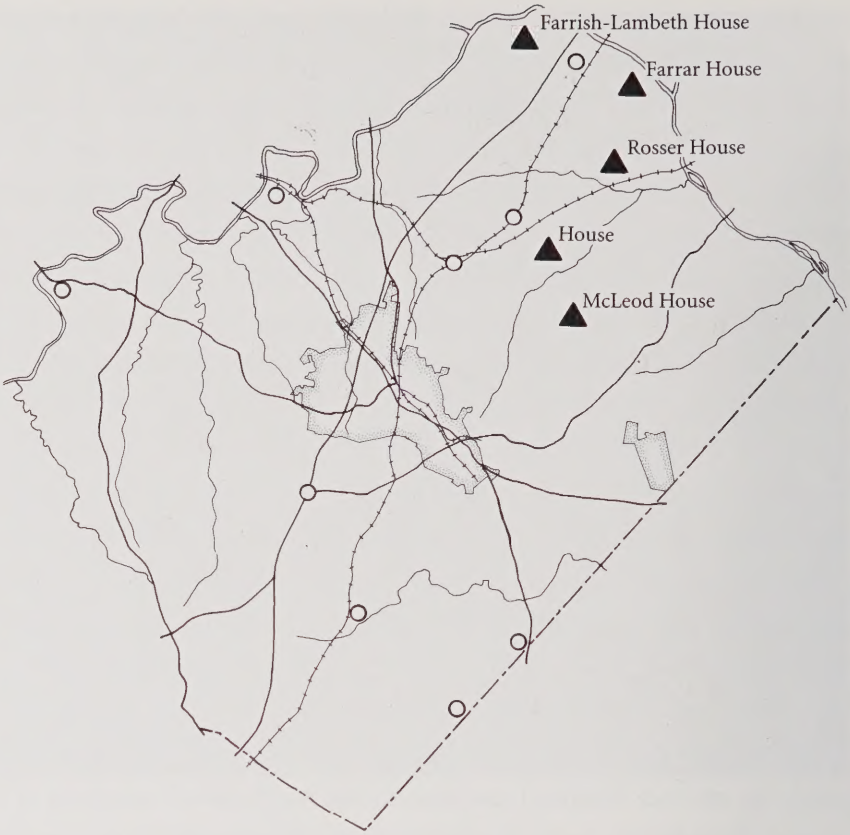
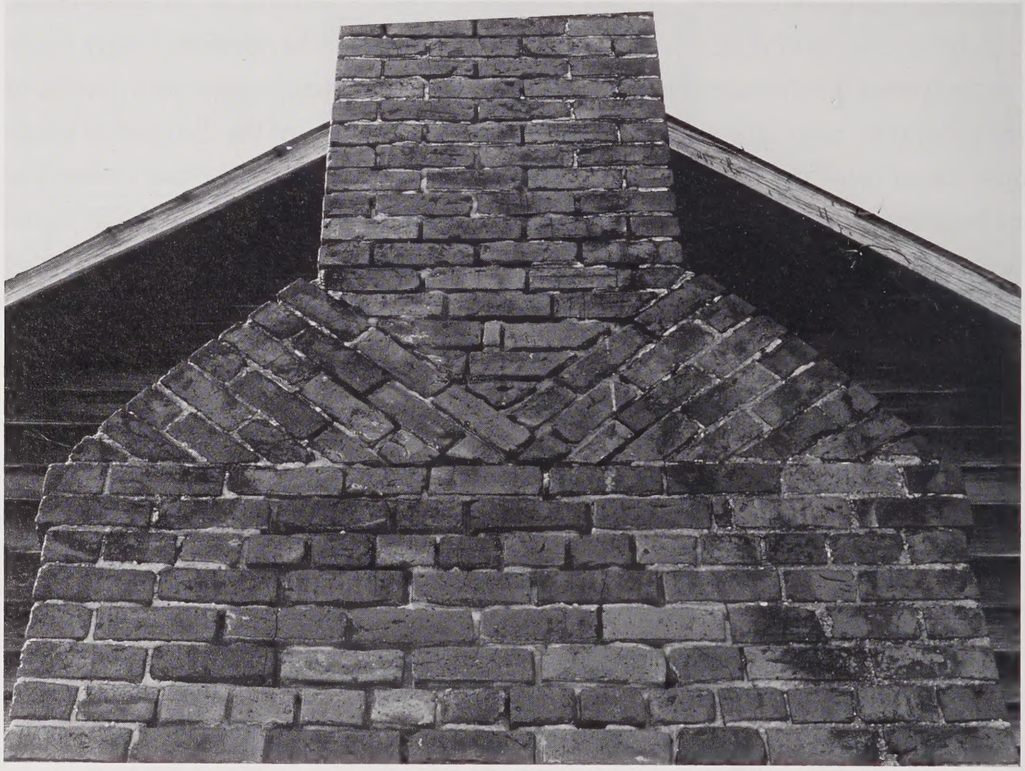


Figure 2.14
A relatively plain example of Lee County decorative chimney brickwork dating to the late antebellum period. The chimney belongs to an abandoned one-story frame house located on Poplar Springs Church Road (SR 1537) in the Sanford vicinity.



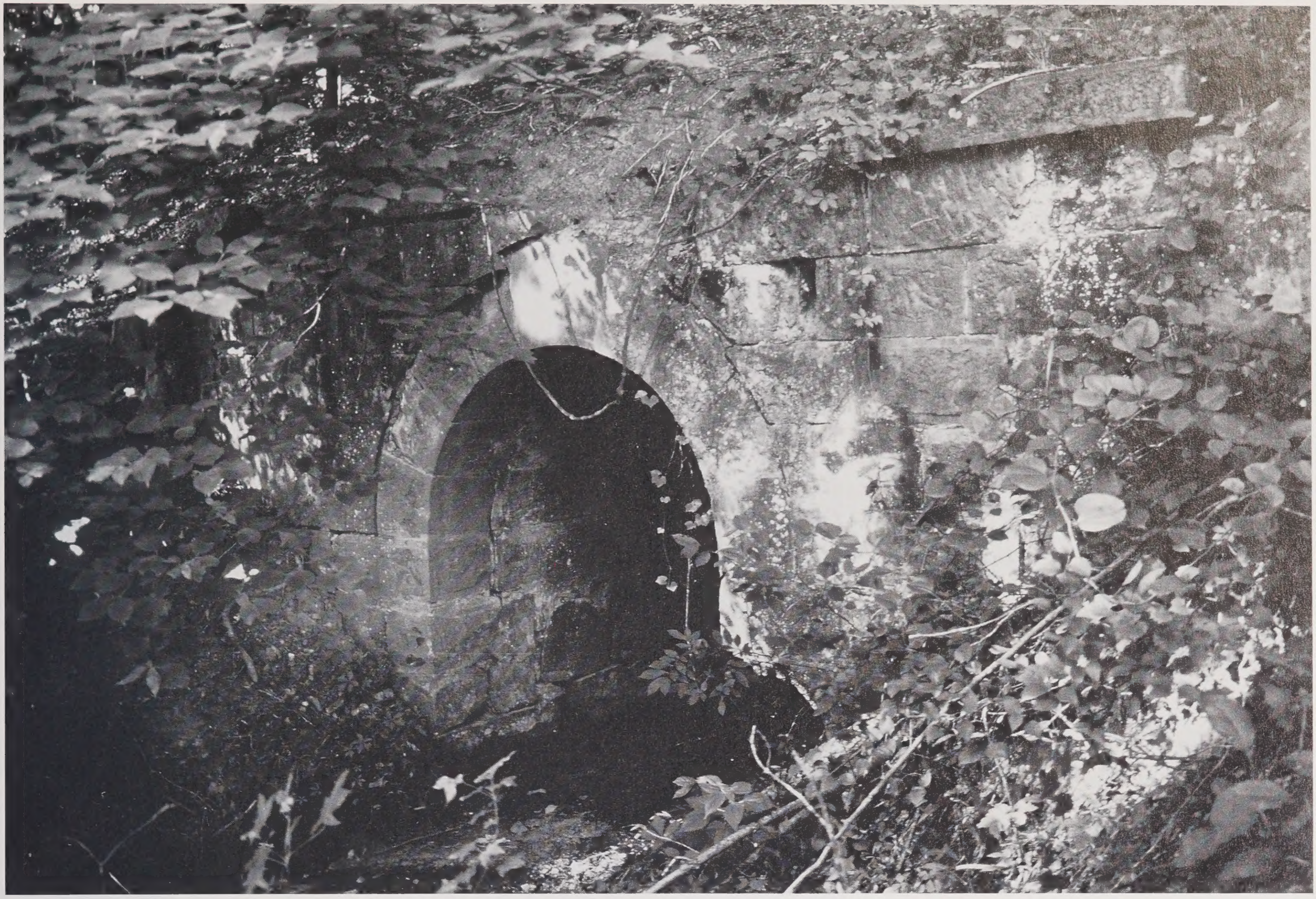


Figure 2.15 Western Railroad culvert (ca. 1860) over a branch of Gasters Creek, off NC 87, Swann's Station vicinity

span watercourses, but over a small branch of Gaster's Creek southeast of Sanford they opted for greater permanence, constructing a barrel-vaulted culvert out of indigenous brownstone (Fig. 2.15). With its round terminal arches, rock-faced and tool-edged voussoir blocks, and keystones carved with the Masonic square and dividers, the Western Railroad culvert is of a scale and sophistication beyond the capabilities of local masons.

Another work of outside engineering prowess is the Endor Iron Furnace, built in the early 1860s on the bank of the Deep River southeast of Egypt/Cumnock. Unlike furnaces constructed throughout the iron-producing areas of Appalachia during the antebellum period—mostly utilitarian structures with slitlike corbeled tuyeres (openings) and little pretense to architectural refinement—the Endor furnace shows the influence of a designer well versed in classical engineering, who detailed its round-arched tuyeres as finely as the arches of the Western Railroad's culvert (Fig. 2.16). Professionally designed engineering structures such as the culvert and the furnace presaged the influence national culture would exert on the county's architecture later in the century.

The midcentury transportation revolution also changed the look of the county's cemeteries. The river, the plank road, and the railroad strengthened ties between Lee County and the regional hub of Fayetteville and placed the area within range of the Fayetteville monument works of George Lauder. Through frequent advertisements in the *Fayetteville Observer*, Lauder cultivated a market in Lee County, and by the 1850s his expertly crafted marble monuments had become popular with the county's elite; nearly a dozen nineteenth-century cemeteries are known to feature his work.[65] The majority of the county's Lauder monuments are relatively simple: plain upright slabs with austere inscriptions and peaked tops. The most elaborate monuments are found in the Scotch Ever McIver and Murchison cemeteries, where ornately carved headstones and table tombs, once a sparkling white, stand out among the older, darker wooden and brownstone markers (Figs. 2.17, 2.18). In death, as in their increasingly busy and prosperous lives, Lee County's wealthier citizens turned to the outside world for cultural direction, a trend that became more pronounced as the nineteenth century progressed.

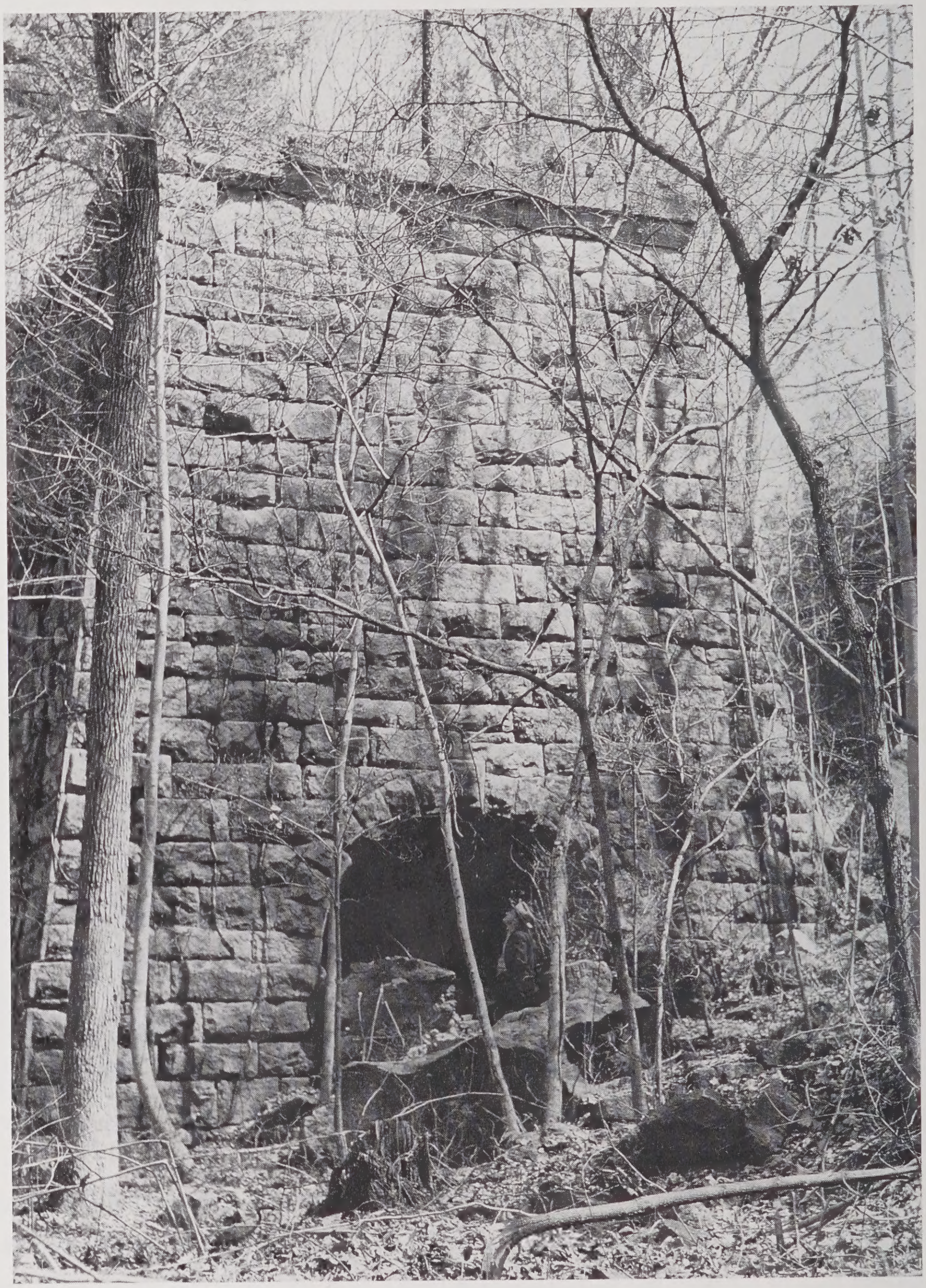
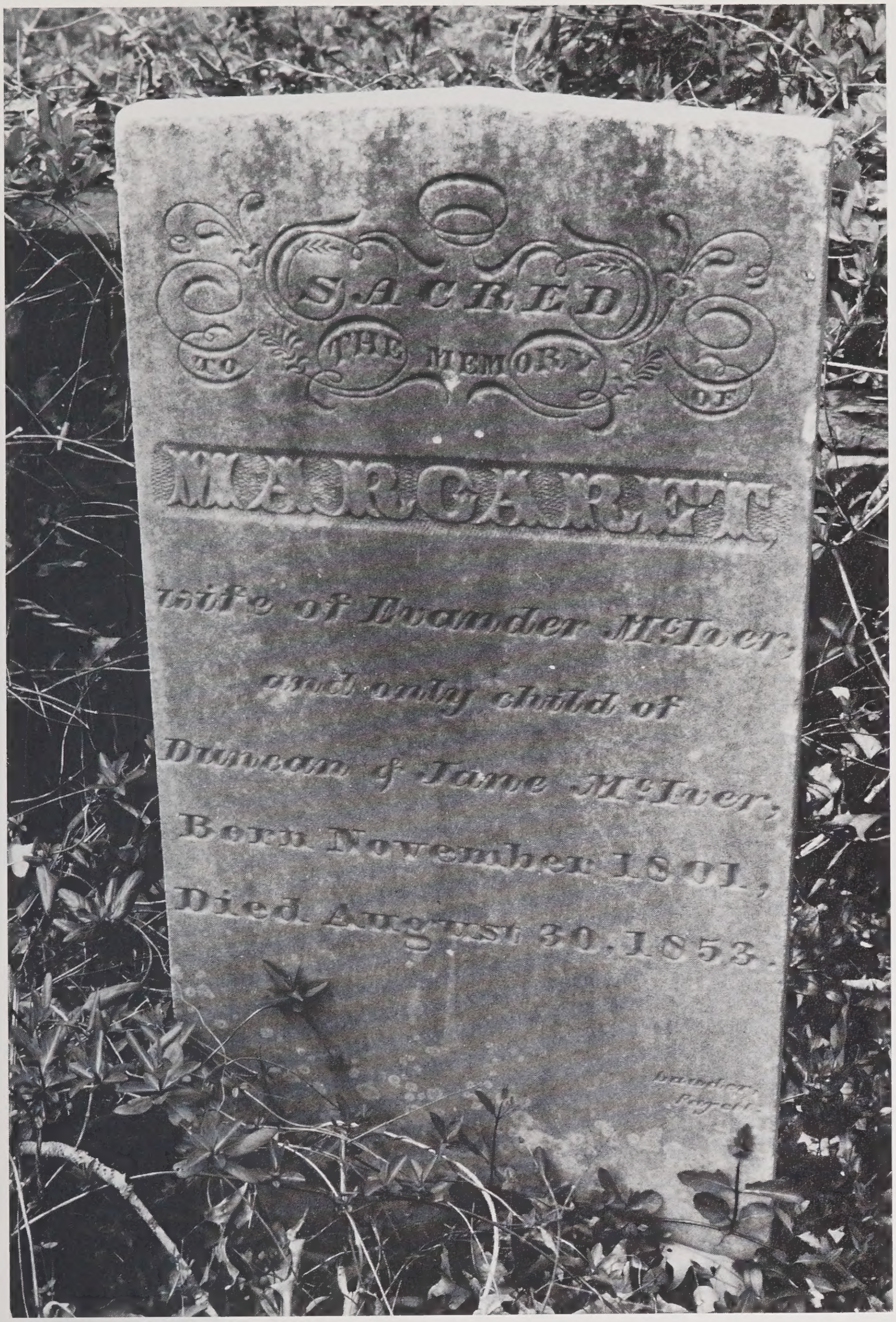
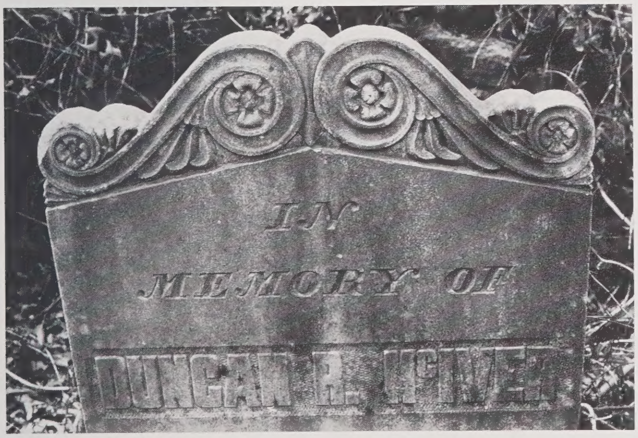


Figure 2.16 Endor Iron Furnace (ca. 1862), Iron Furnace Road (SR 1463), Cumnock vicinity, photo ca. 1950. The furnace stands thirty-five feet high (note the scale of the man standing in front of the arched tuyere).





Figures 2.17, 2.18 Marble headstones carved at the Fayetteville workshop of George Lauder; McIver Cemetery, Cotten Road (SR 1403), Sanford vicinity

3 Town and Country, 1872–1906

In 1871, the tracks of the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line Railroad intersected those of the Western Railroad—a crucial event in Lee County's history. The transportation improvements of the 1850s and 1860s—plank roads, navigation works, and railroads—had jolted the county out of the economic torpor of the early nineteenth century, and now the crossing of two important rail lines set the stage for a period of unprecedented agricultural and industrial development. Over the following decades, lumbering and naval stores production consumed the county's pine forests, coal mining rebounded at Egypt, and Lee County became a nationally significant supplier of architectural brownstone. Freed from slavery, the county's African-American citizens established farms, churches, and business districts, starting on the long hard road toward fuller participation in civic and economic affairs.

Sanford, which sprang up at the railroad crossing, and its older sister, Jonesboro, emerged as manufacturing and business centers. The towns of Lemon Springs and Broadway developed as commercial nodes serving the rural areas of the county. A countryside of towns, villages, and farmland took shape, superimposed on the pioneer landscape of scattered clearings surrounded by forest.

Jonesboro and Sanford, Lee County's first true towns, grew out of the railroad ferment of the 1860s and 1870s. Jonesboro developed on the Western Railroad at the line's highest point between Fayetteville and the Deep River (Fig. 3.1). According to an 1888 article in the *Jonesboro Leader*, the town site was a "poor sand hill field" before 1860. The log dwelling and tailor shop of Matthew Morris stood at the location, joined in the late 1850s by J. L. Seawell's wagon shop. The first real growth began in 1861 when the Western Railroad established the Jonesboro depot (named for the road's engineer, Leonidas C. Jones) and the general merchandise firm of Bryan & Company built a store.

South gable of the Pine Knot Farm farmhouse (1888), 3810 Lemon Springs Road (SR 1001), Lemon Springs vicinity

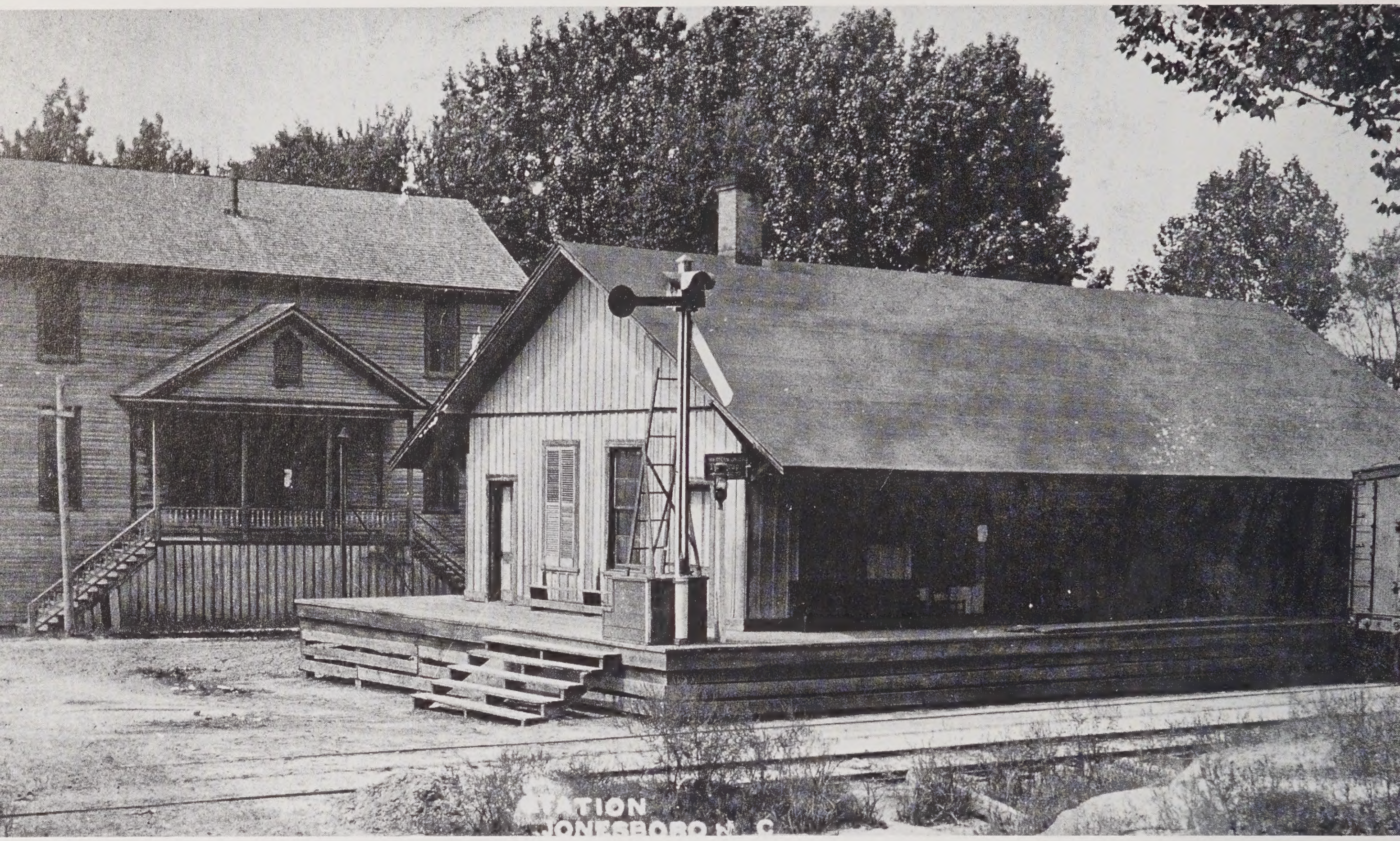


Figure 3.1
Railroad depot in Jonesboro (demolished; photo ca. 1900, courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)

Rather than experiencing a period of decline at the end of the Civil War, Jonesboro boomed. A. A. McIver established a turpentine distillery, the Fayetteville-based iron manufacturing firm of Mallett & Colville set up a steam sawmill, and George S. Cole opened a general store, all within a year of the war's conclusion.[1] Whites and freedmen from surrounding areas flocked to the village in search of work. By the end of the decade, stores and barrooms clustered around the depot, and the town had grown sufficiently to justify incorporation.[2]

Naval stores collection, processing, and shipping comprised what local observers esteemed the "great industry" of early Jonesboro. Merchants George S. Cole and Newton R. Bryan soon joined A. A. McIver in the distilling business.[3] During the heyday of local turpentining in the 1870s and 1880s, period business directories list five or six distilleries operating in or near Jonesboro for a given year. The naval stores industry formed the basis for other economic activities as well. Six general merchants appeared in the 1880 federal census; two—Sion H. Buchanan and James H. Dalrymple—are associated with Jonesboro's earliest surviving houses. Four carpenters—William Arnold, Marshal Godfrey, Robert Register, and Tandy Walker—lived in town, as did civil engineer Leonidas C. Jones. Jonesboro's population numbered 242 whites and 130 blacks in 1880.

But the naval stores industry could not sustain the town's prosperity indefinitely, as Jonesboro mayor T. N. Campbell later recalled: "The gradual disappearance of the turpentine orchards, and of the majestic forests of original growth long leaf pine . . . caused gloomy forebodings as to the future of the promising young village."[4] By the mid-1890s, the town's turpentine distilleries had shut down.[5] Jonesboro might have died with the naval stores industry had not cotton processing and textile manufacturing filled the void. During the last three decades of the nineteenth century, nine cotton gins on average operated in or near the town—as many as in Carthage, the Moore County seat—giving Jonesboro a reputation as "an important cotton market" (Fig. 3.2).[6] The trade in cotton attracted cotton manufacturers. In 1889, J. E. Taylor and G. M. Webb established the Jonesboro Cotton Mills for the manufacture of yarn and carpet fillings, employing nearly a hundred hands in 1894.[7] The Jonesboro Cotton Mills were followed by the Eugenia and Clark manufacturing companies about 1900. The Eugenia mill produced coarse skein yarns that were made into denim and other heavy cotton goods at the Clark mill. Both mills were managed by David Clark, a young Charlotte entrepreneur who in later years would become a leading publicist for the southern textile industry.[8]

The turpentine trade and cotton industries created a diversified economy in Jonesboro by the end of the 1800s. In addition to its cotton mill, in 1894 the town boasted sawmills, corn mills, a planing mill, the Kelly Brothers plow and stove factory, W. H. Hancock's Jonesboro Pottery Company, and the W. A. Thomas & Company sash, blind, and buggy factory.[9] The town grew from 372 people in 1880 to 650 in 1890 and to 800 in 1910 (Figs. 3.3, 3.4, 3.5).[10] By the turn of the twentieth century, however, it had become clear that Jonesboro was being overshadowed by Sanford. As one Sanford newspaper editor put it, "The crossing of the Seaboard Air Line [i.e.,

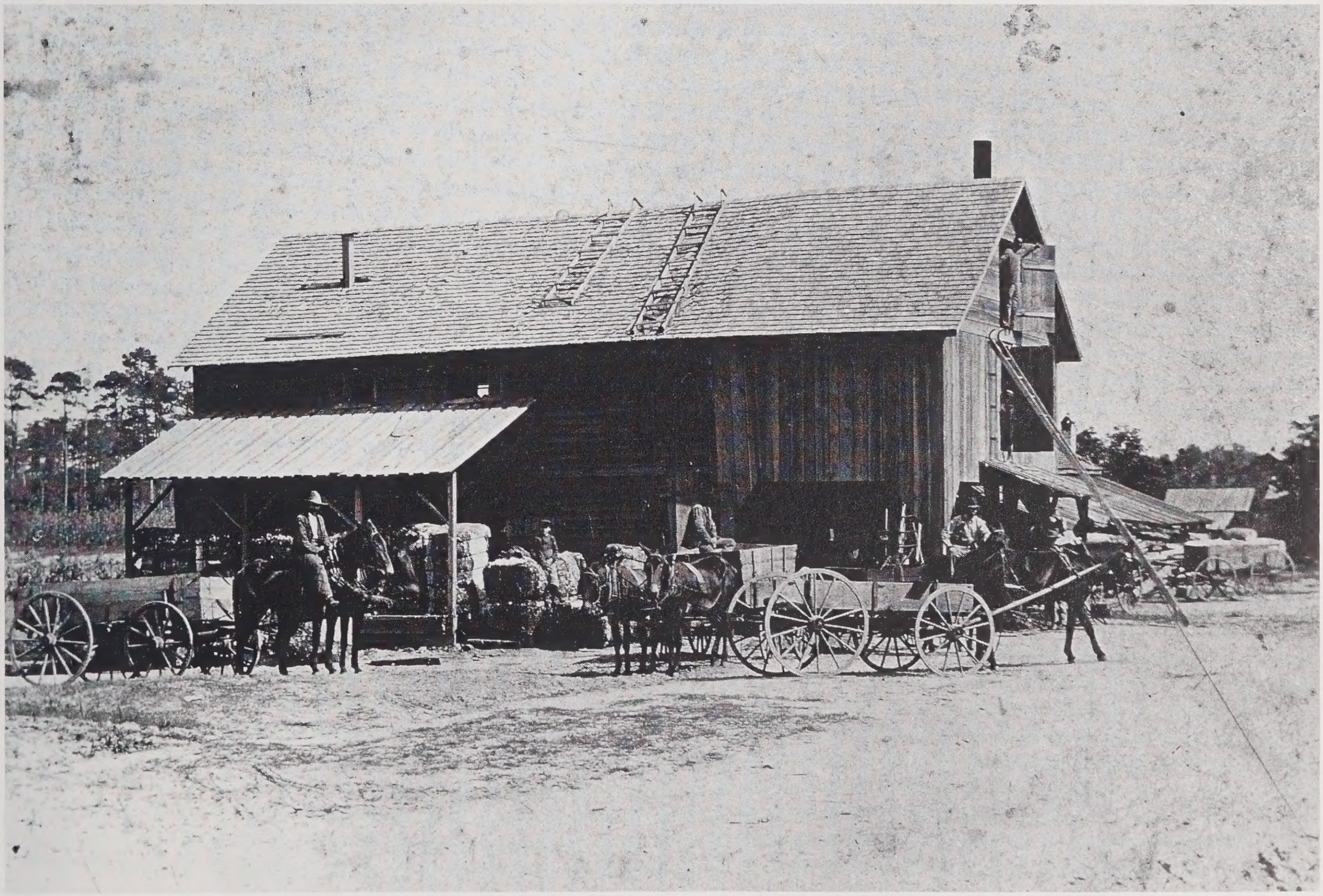
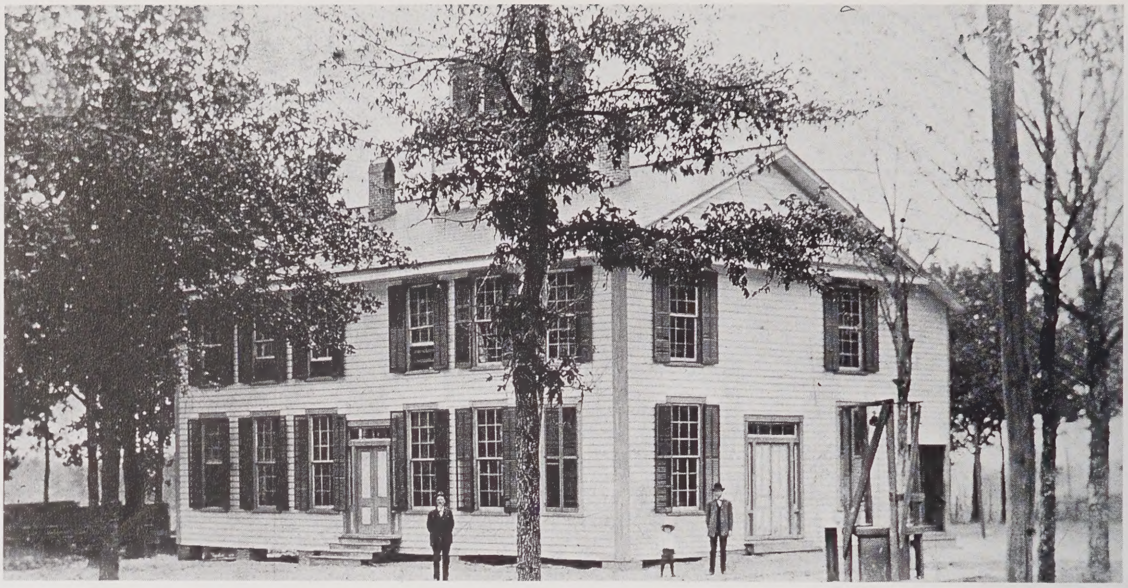


Figure 3.2 Cotton gin, formerly located on East Main Street in Jonesboro (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)

Figure 3.3 Academic and religious institutions flourished in Jonesboro during the late 1800s. The Jonesboro Academy, affiliated with the Jonesboro Methodist Church, was built before 1900 on the western outskirts of town. (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)



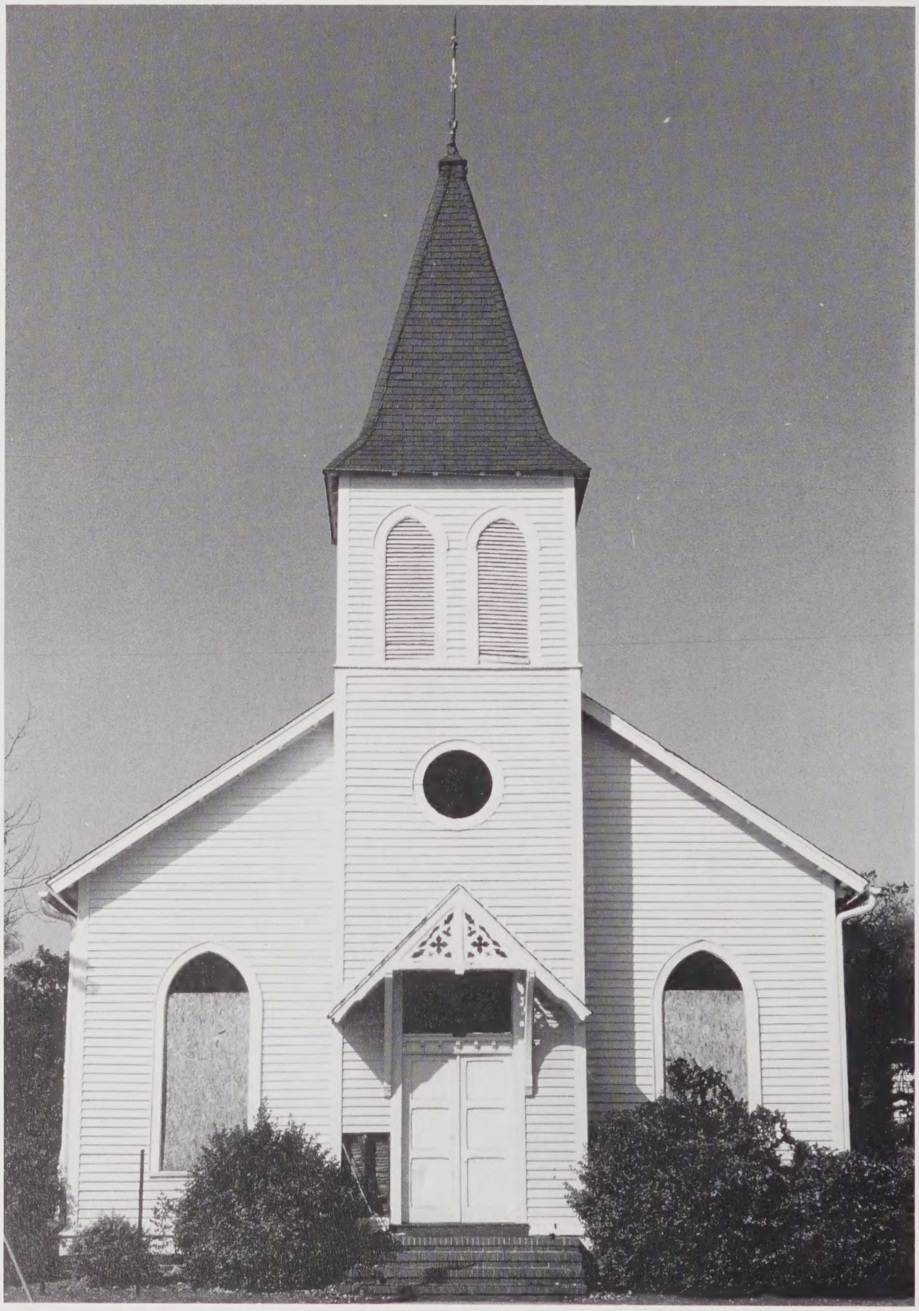


Figure 3.4 Former building of the Jonesboro Presbyterian Church, which stood on the northeast corner of West Main Street and Lee Avenue (shown here shortly before its demolition in 1992)

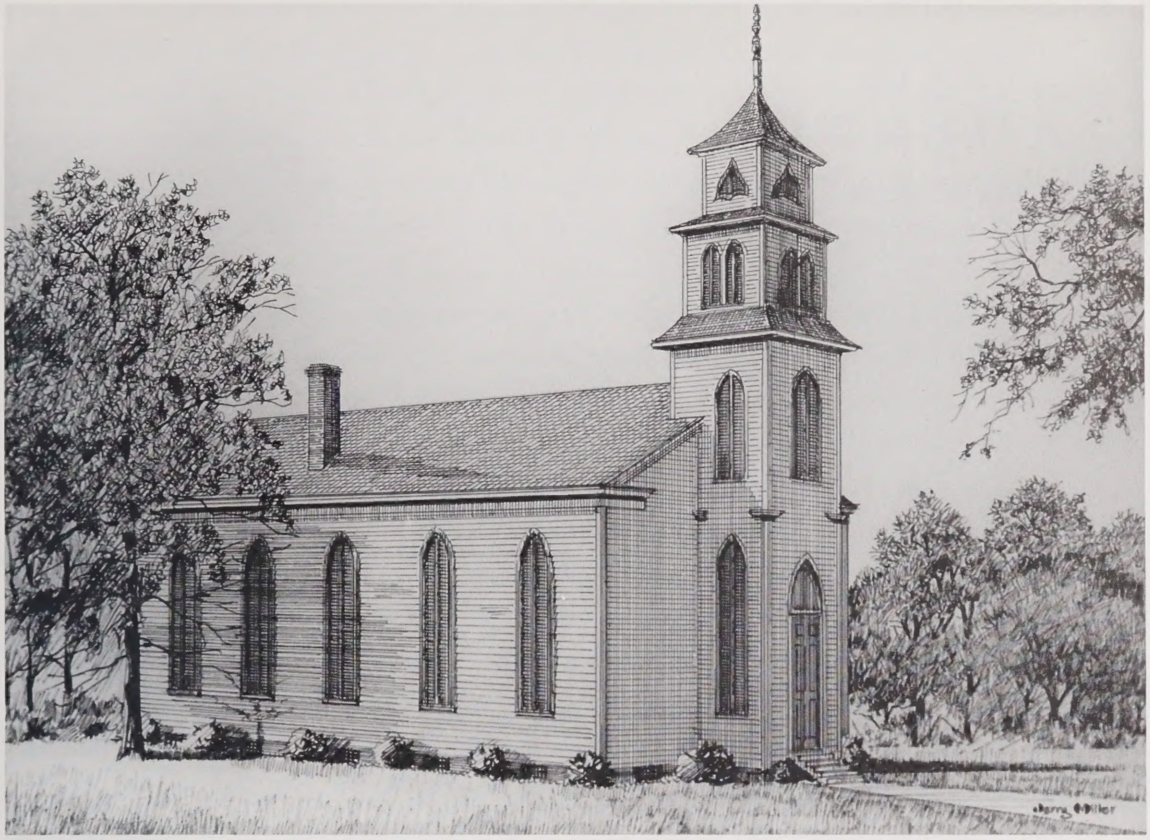


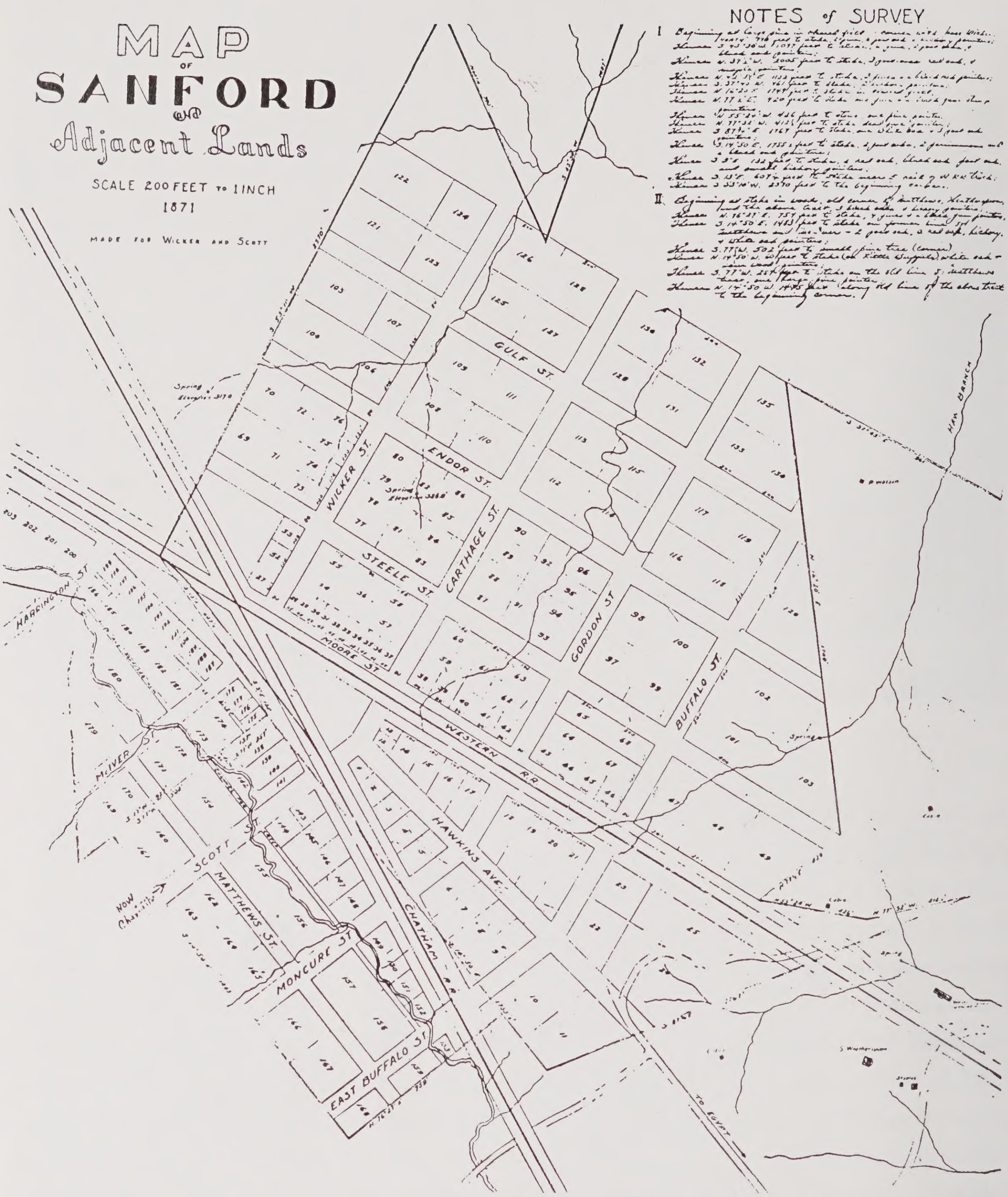
Figure 3.5 Former building of the Jonesboro Methodist Church, which stood on West Main Street (Courtesy of the artist, Jerry Miller)

the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line] and the building of Sanford absorbed much of the energy and material that would have built up Jonesboro."[11]

"At first it was simply a place where the railroads crossed." So one laconic commentator recalled Sanford at its moment of birth.[12] In 1871, the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line Railroad connected with the Western Railroad at a sandy ridge northwest of Jonesboro, and adjacent landowners seized the opportunity to develop a town. Jordan Wicker, Augustus W. Steele, John B. Matthews, Sr., and brothers Wesley and John D. McIver arranged with John W. Scott, Sr., of the R&A to have approximately 225 acres laid out into streets and lots and sold at public auction (Figs. 3.6, 3.7).[13] The town was named Sanford in honor of Charles O. Sanford, the R&A engineer responsible for the construction of the railroad through Lee County.[14] (Some accounts state that a settlement existed at the site of Sanford prior to 1871, but this has not been confirmed.[15])

Sanford grew rapidly at first, a result of its short-lived status as the terminus of the R&A line. One account puts the 1871 population as high as 285, when the town swelled with black and white railroad workers and would-be capitalists.[16] An important early business was the sawmill of Troy Sauls, which provided lumber to the Western Railroad and to the Cape Fear Iron & Steel Company's operations at Endor Iron Furnace.[17] Among the first buildings constructed in the town (probably with lumber from the Sauls mill) were the depot and depot agent's residence. The latter, better known as the Railroad House, stood on the north corner of Hawkins and Charlotte avenues across from another early building, Brown's Tavern.[18] The first occupants of the house were depot agent W. T. Tucker, later Sanford's first mayor, and his wife, Inder Tucker, who conducted the Sanford Institute in the house "for the tuition of young ladies and small

Figure 3.6
The Wicker & Scott map of Sanford, 1871. North is toward the bottom of the map.



boys" from 1872 until the late 1870s.[19] Aside from its educational function, the Institute instilled a modicum of gentility in the raw town. It also served a promotional purpose. An advertisement for the school assured prospective customers that "parents wishing to send their children to a quiet and healthy location cannot find a place more so than Sanford."[20] The idyllic Sanford portrayed by the Tuckers bore little resemblance to the "straggling village, ugly, dirty and uninviting" recalled by others, with its muddy streets, groggeries, and contaminated wells.[21]

After the initial flush of development, Sanford stagnated. When it was incorporated on February 11, 1874, the town's population numbered around 200. By 1880, the population had risen only slightly to 236 persons—126 whites and 110 blacks.[22] A pall was cast on the town almost from the start when the ownership of the lands once owned by Wicker and Steele was called into question. According to John W. Scott, Sr., "a Writ of Ejectment was issued against the [railroad] Company & everyone who had built or commenced building in the place." Lot sales were suspended through 1875, and as late as 1884 Scott complained of low demand for real estate.[23] Some blamed the town's failure to develop a stable community life on the ready availability of "spiritous liquors." Liquor sales were prohibited by the act of incorporation, but the problem persisted for years afterward.[24]

In 1880, Sanford was a working community of merchants, tradesmen, and laborers, as indicated by the federal census of that year. The town fathers included Robert M. Brown, the postmaster and a leading merchant; George C. Newby, a physician and one of the town's first commissioners; and Wilber C. Page, the proprietor of the town hotel. The Rev. Peter J. Klapp ministered to the town's spiritual needs, and Aurelia C. Weatherspoon, age nineteen, taught school. The town's businessmen included merchants Lodwick T. Brown, William T. Buchanan, John M. Stephens, and Thomas D. Watson; lawyer Thomas M. Cross; carpenters Henry A. Bland, Jack Miller, and David W. Womack; and gravestone maker George A. Davis. Wilber Page and his wife Fanny ran the Page Hotel, also known as the "Waffle House" for its house specialty. In 1899, the Page Hotel (which probably stood on South Moore Street) contained twenty-three rooms, "tastefully and cosily furnished" parlors, and a dining room table that could seat thirty diners.[25]

Sanford's early business life revolved around the McIvers general store (Fig. 3.8). Although McIvers may not have been the town's first store (the Gaster & Clark or William T. Buchanan Store apparently preceded it), it was for many years Sanford's leading mercantile emporium, and the list of individuals associated with it reads like a roster of the principal merchants and landowners in the Sanford vicinity.[26] The original store building, a "rough plank structure" on the

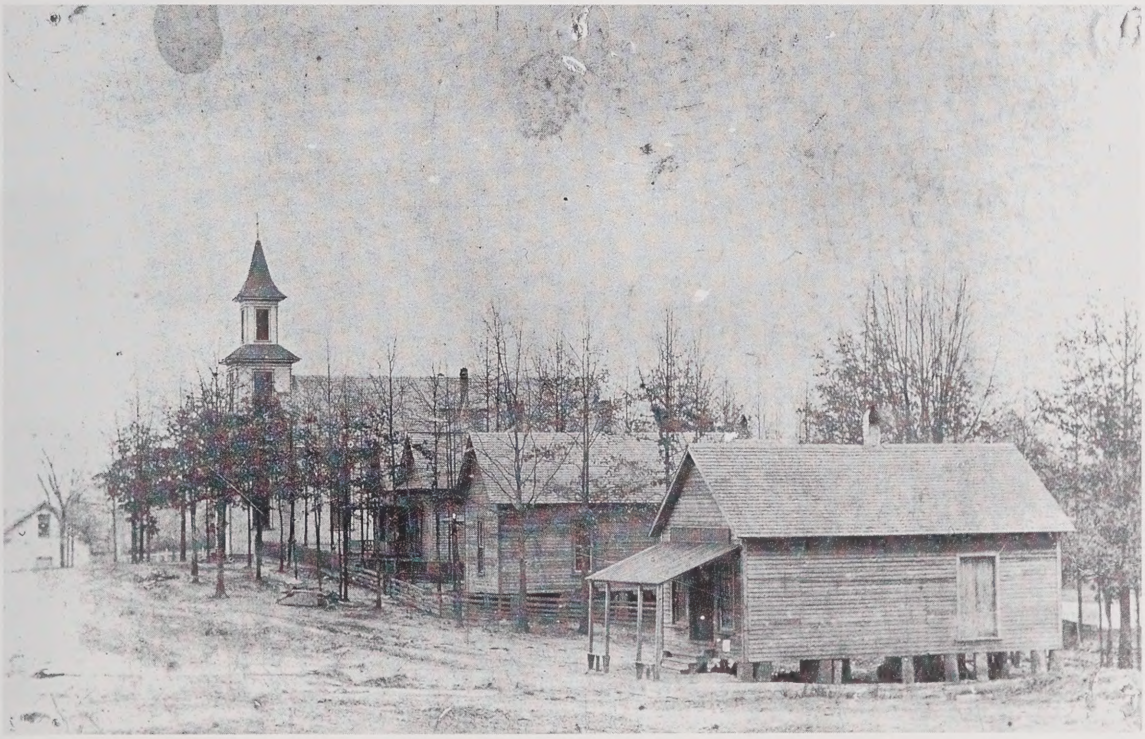


Figure 3.7 Early Sanford at its rawest. This ca. 1900 photograph shows Steele Street Methodist Church and other buildings located on South Steele Street. The store or workshop in the foreground appears to be supported by wooden posts driven into the ground.

south corner of Chatham and McIver streets, was established in 1873 by local planter M. Henry McIver and businessman D. H. Marsh.[27] (Marsh was an employee of the Western Railroad during the Civil War; after the war he formed the Marsh & Jessup store at Egypt.)[28] Wesley Dye is reported to have managed the store during its first year of operation, and Lodwick T. Brown was associated with it in the 1880s.[29] John D. McIver joined the business at an early date, and it may have been his cotton gin that operated in conjunction with the store in 1877. About 1883, the firm moved across McIver Street to a "large and beautiful Store house" reported to be the largest general store in Moore County.[30] A photograph of the store shortly after its completion shows a two-story frame building with a wraparound veranda, milled detailing, bell-shaped gable vents, and other architectural accoutrements of the period. Flush with success, McIvers opened a branch store in the western Moore County community of West End in 1889.[31]

Sanford's fortunes improved with the establishment of the first of several large industries in 1882. That year, John W. Scott, Sr. and John Blackman Makepeace organized the Sanford Sash & Blind Company, considered the county's pioneer manufacturing enterprise (Fig. 3.9).[32] Located

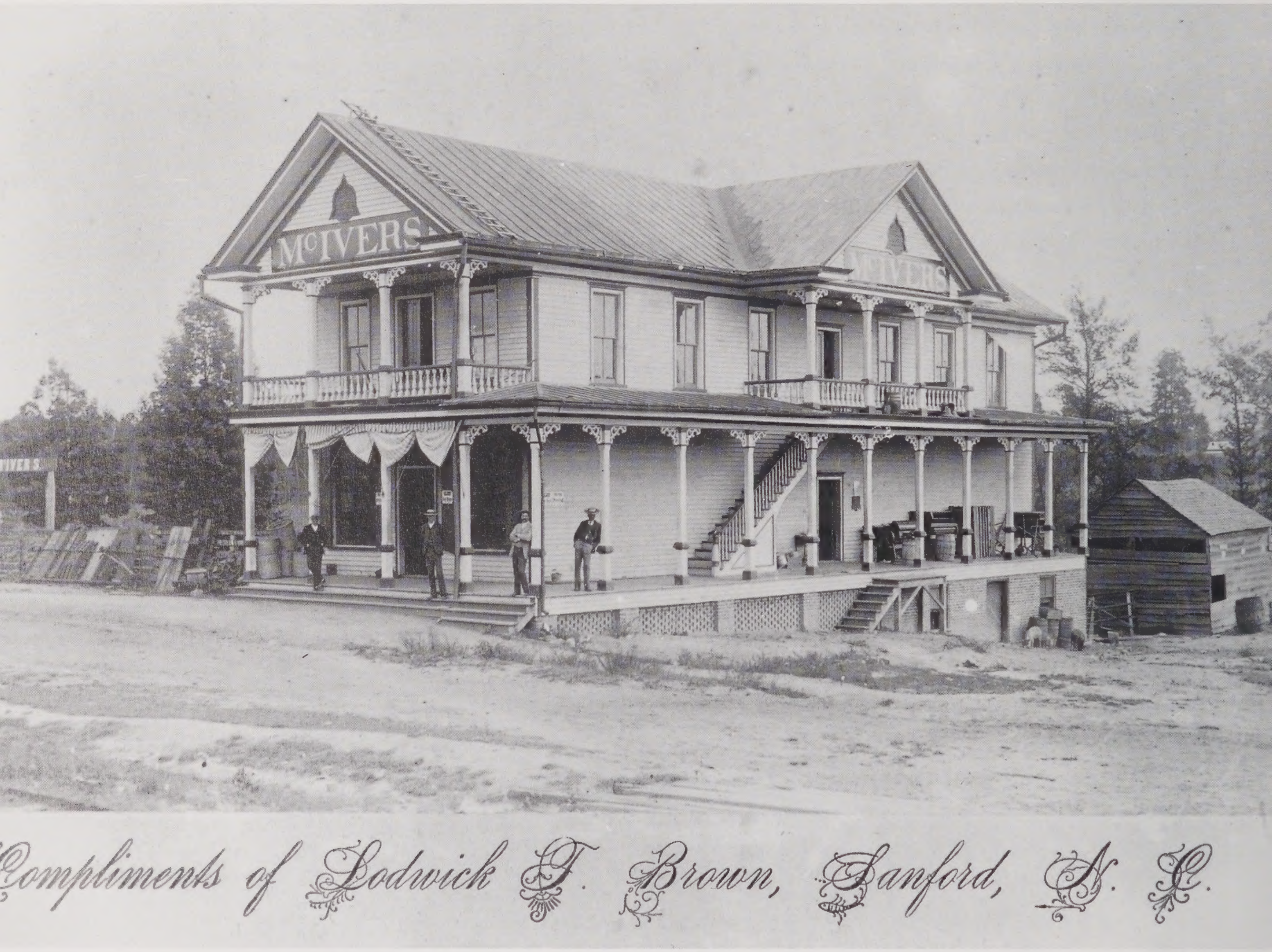
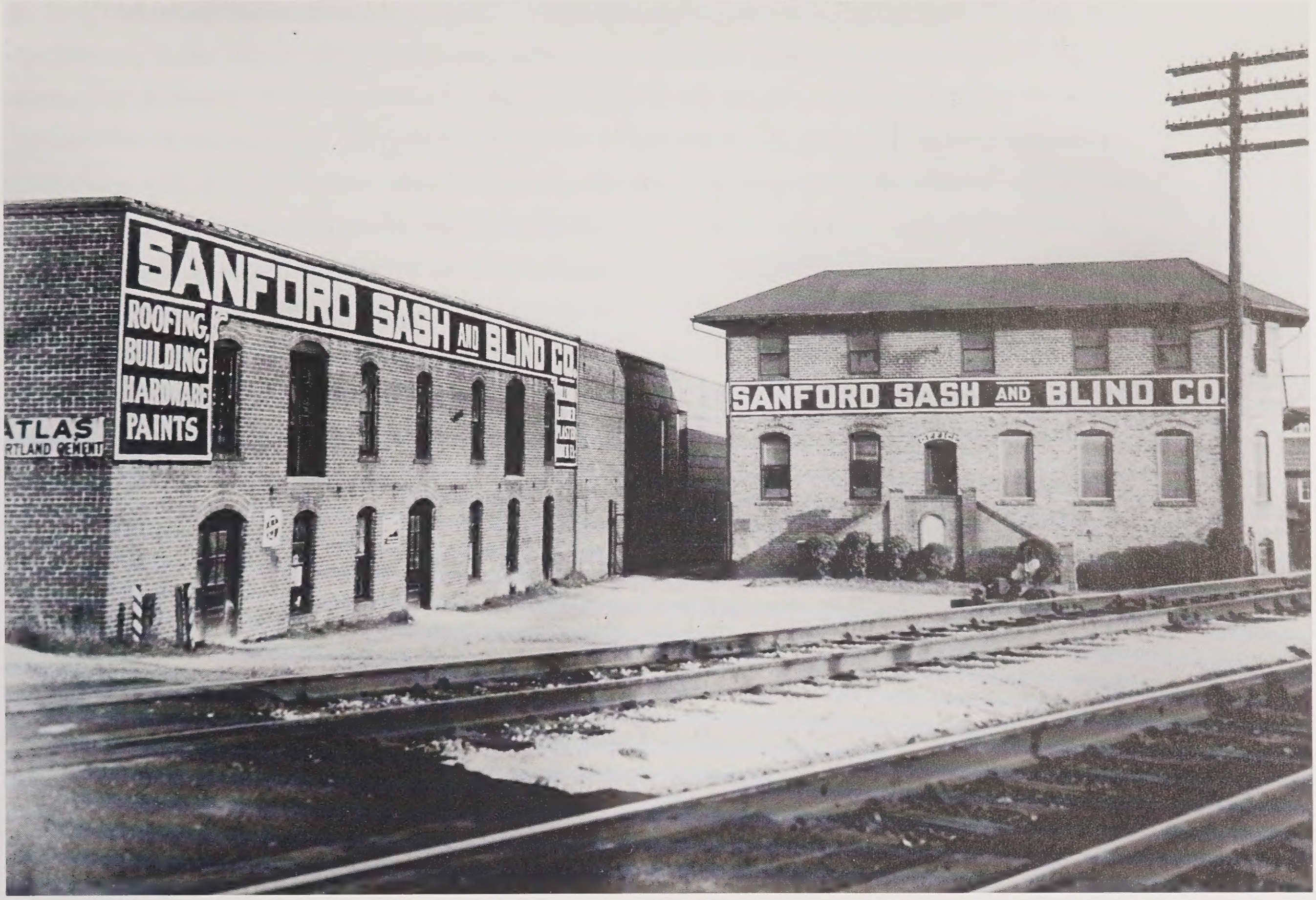


Figure 3.8
McIvers Store at the north corner of Chatham and McIver streets, Sanford, photo ca. 1883


SANFORD SASH AND BLIND CO.
ROOFING, BUILDING HARDWARE PAINTS
ATLAS PORTLAND CEMENT
SANFORD SASH AND BLIND CO.

in the wedge of land between the Western and R&A lines south of the downtown, the factory produced "Dressed Lumber, Sash, Doors and Blinds, Mouldings, Brackets, Church Pews, etc." from the abundant yellow pine of the Sandhills.[33] In 1888, the plant added a chair factory and a building supplies outlet store, and in 1889 it filled orders for clients in Virginia and Washington, D.C., as well as North Carolina.[34]

Figure 3.9
Sanford Sash & Blind Company, photo early 1900s.

Sanford Sash & Blind was followed by the Moffitt Brothers foundry and machine shops, established in 1888.[35] The four Moffitt brothers, natives of Randolph County, initially comprised the entire workforce. At first housed in the former Buffalo Smoking Tobacco Factory in southern Sanford, after 1900 the firm operated out of an extensive brick facility on Maple Avenue. In 1907, the Moffitt Iron Works employed fifty workers in the manufacture of sawmill saws, logging and lumber cars, manhole covers, and other iron castings.[36] As employment opportunities at Sanford Sash & Blind, the Moffitt Iron Works, and other industries broadened, Sanford's population nearly doubled, growing from 236 in 1880 to 450 in 1890. More people meant more business, and the number of merchants listing Sanford as their address rose from five in 1883 to nine in 1884 and thirty-one in 1890. In addition, nine cotton gins and one turpentine distillery operated in or near town by 1890.[37]

Business optimism inspired the construction of more permanent buildings. In 1887–88, on South Moore Street, John W. Scott, Sr., built the town's first brick commercial block, a "mammouth [*sic*] town hall [with] three stores under neath."[38] Housing starts accelerated during the late 1880s. Residential construction focused on Hawkins Avenue, which eclipsed Chatham Street as the town's most popular residential neighborhood during the decade.[39] By 1888, the *Moore Gazette*, based in Carthage, the county seat, conceded that Sanford "promises to become the metropolis of the county."[40] A year later, the upstart town no longer needed to rely on Carthage for its news: the St. Clair family—Addie, Cornelia, David, Donald, and P. H.—established the *Sanford Express* (first known as the *Central Express*), which was published until the 1930s.[41]

In 1889, the first of several large brownstone quarries opened in Sanford. Brownstone, a deep reddish brown sandstone, underlies Sanford and much of northern Lee County. Since the beginnings of settlement, the stone had been used by local builders for house foundations, chimneys, cemetery walls, and the like. In the mid-1800s, the engineers who built the Western Railroad through the area exploited the stone's decorative potential in their beautifully crafted culverts, and the builders of the Endor Iron Furnace did likewise. Brownstone was quarried locally on a small commercial scale during the 1870s and 1880s. In 1888, Sanford gravestone maker George A. Davis used the stone, and in 1890, small quarries were worked by Henry A. Bland, J. G. Foushee, John W. Scott, Jr., J. C. Wicker, and S. Weatherspoon.[42] A related development was the establishment of a millstone quarry on Little Governor's Creek near Steel Bridge Road (SR 1318). Will Thomas was likely the operator of this quarry about 1900; it is possible the quarry was first worked in the 1700s by local landowner John Records.[43]

In America's fast-growing cities, interest in architectural brownstone reached a fever pitch during the late nineteenth century, a period aptly christened the Brown Decades. Romanesque brownstone government buildings were built throughout North Carolina and elsewhere, and row after row of apartment buildings known as "brownstones" went up in New York, Philadelphia, and other cities. By the end of the 1880s, Sanford's enhanced rail connections enabled it to cater directly to this burgeoning national market. In 1889, the local press urged, "The people of Sanford owe it to themselves to have the brownstone quarries in a quarter mile of the depot operated. Let's agitate and force this excellent building stone upon the market. It is of the best in the U.S. and there is enough of it here to build a New York or Chicago."[44] And indeed, in August 1889 a Philadelphia concern leased quarry sites from several landowners in the Sanford area.[45]

In February 1890, W. H. Smith of Michigan, the contractor for a federal office building then under construction in Wilmington, visited Sanford to inspect brownstone deposits.[46] Smith immediately leased a site southwest of the downtown and put twenty-five stonecutters to work.[47] The stone was shipped to Wilmington on the newly completed Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad. Black stonecutters made up the majority of the workforce at the Smith quarry, as they did at most later Sanford quarries; one of the Smith quarry stonecutters was Josiah Caddell, who in 1890 came to Sanford from the North Carolina Millstone Company quarry at Parkwood.[48] In January 1891, W. H. Smith supplemented his crew with French stonecutters. "As a rule, they are very reserved and well behaved," noted the local press on the arrival of the newcomers. "Sometimes they gather in knots on the streets and it is interesting to hear their French, but it is more entertaining to hear their 'Inglis.' "[49]

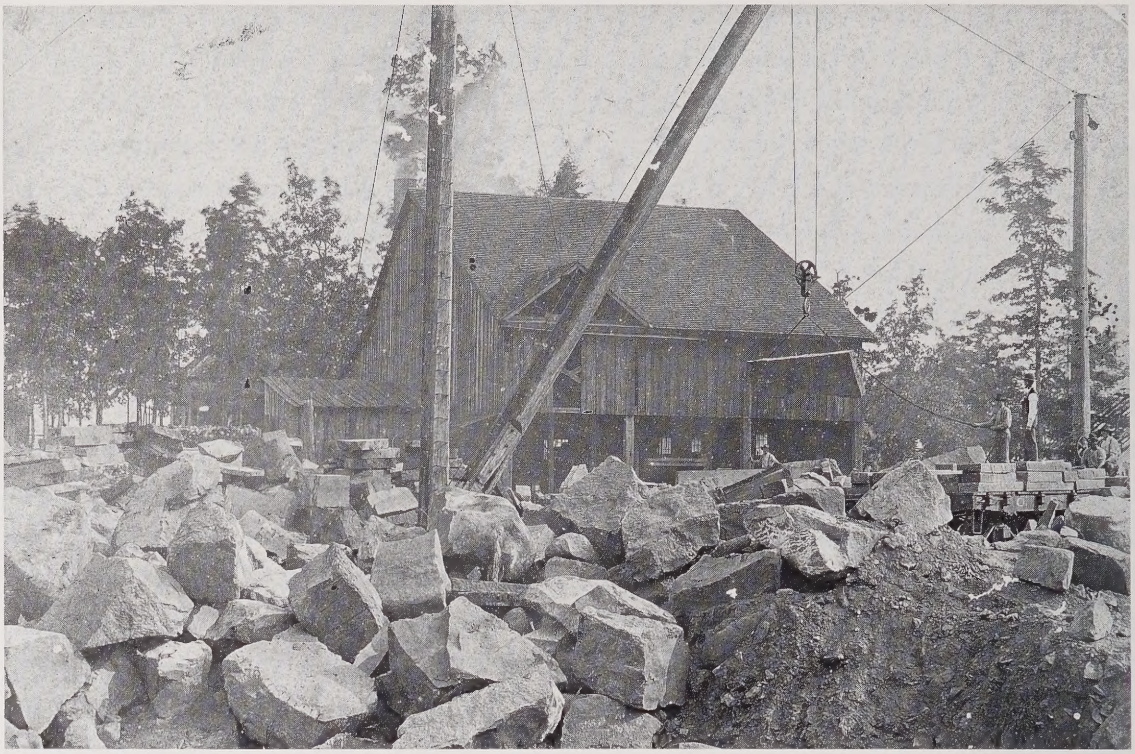
The success of W. H. Smith's quarry inspired local landowners and northern capitalists to step up brownstone production. In June 1891, the Moore County Brownstone Company opened a quarry on a ninety-acre tract west of downtown.[50] The Carolina Brownstone Company had commenced quarrying operations by the end of 1891, and in the spring of the following year it erected a derrick and worker housing.[51] In May 1892, a group of Philadelphia investors formed the Southern Red & Brown Stone Company and purchased a fifty-two-acre tract along the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley line about a half mile northwest of the downtown.[52] A reporter described the Southern's operation in March 1893 as a "busy little village" with "several new houses dot[ting] the hills around the quarry."[53] Among the occupants of these houses were Irish stonecutters who organized a baseball team in Sanford.[54]

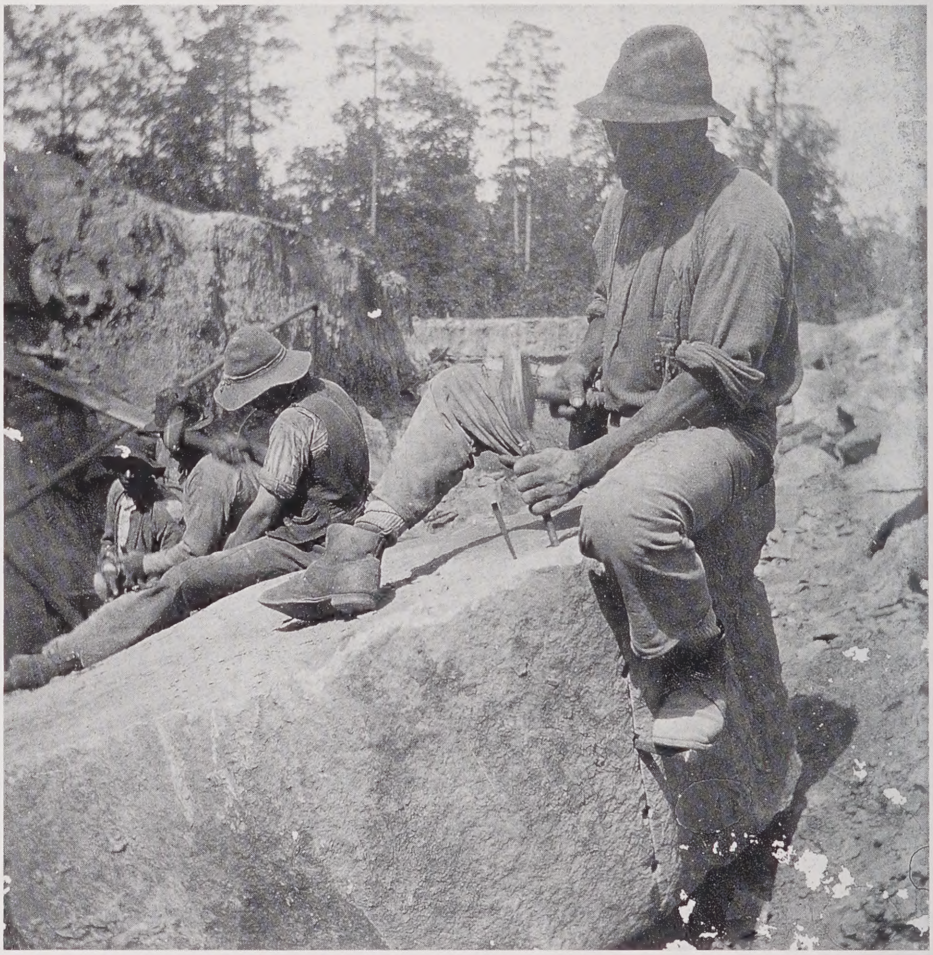
In the spring of 1894, a group of Michigan investors headed by Detroit attorney Frank Aldrich acquired the Smith quarry and commenced operations as the Aldrich Stone Company (Figs. 3.10, 3.11, 3.12).[55] The company engaged W. H. Smith to set up its plant, which by the end of the summer featured an office, a machinery shed, two derricks (one capable of handling eighty-ton stones), and several worker houses.[56] "It is the largest plant in North Carolina except that of the granite quarries at Mount Airy," claimed the *Sanford Express*.[57] In its first year, the new quarry experienced few disruptions, although the stonecutters, whose wages varied from 75 cents to $3 per day, struck for higher pay in March 1895.[58] Concern about local boys skinny-dipping in a flooded pit at the quarry prompted the management to release four alligators in the pond. "They are doing well," the press reported, "and are frequently seen sporting in the water. The small boys will stop bathing in the pond."[59]

A window on the day-to-day operation of the Aldrich quarry is provided by the company's account books, which survive for the year 1895.[60] One of the quarry's more important contracts was for the New Bern Federal Building (now the New Bern City Hall.)[61] The contractor, the Grace & Hyde Company of Chicago, ordered brownstone foundation blocks, water table moldings, window trim, archway voussoir blocks, and other components from Aldrich, including columns and foliated capitals for the building's entrance. In 1895 alone, Aldrich provided quotes and finished stonework for the Baptist Seminary in Raleigh; the Oddfellows Orphanage in Goldsboro; a church in Gastonia; a courthouse near Knoxville, Tennessee; the Builders Exchange Building in Washington, D.C.; and unidentified projects in Winston-Salem; Norfolk and Pulaski, Virginia; Charleston, West Virginia; Atlanta, Georgia; and Jacksonville, Florida. Under the management of Roscoe E. Carrington, the company later provided stone for the 1896 Guilford Battlefield Monument erected near Greensboro and the 1897 Spence Library of the Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia.[62]

The finest Sanford brownstone work was executed by John F. Gonella and the other Frenchmen who arrived in 1891. In October 1895, Gonella displayed a doorway—carved from a single block of stone—and an urn at the Atlanta Exposition.[63] The whereabouts of the doorway are unknown, but the urn is now located beside the entrance to a private residence in Sanford. Sculpted in three blocks, it features a basin carved to suggest a partially opened flower head (Fig. 3.13). In 1906, Gonella carved an elaborate brownstone monument for his deceased wife, Minnie Rackle, the daughter of a business associate of W. H. Smith. The Gonella monument stands in the Buffalo Presbyterian Church cemetery along with other brownstone markers carved by French stonecutters.

Sanford's brownstone industry flourished through the turn of the century, but a shift in national taste away from the heavy Romanesque forms and rich coloration of the 1880s and 1890s toward the lighter, classical compositions popularized by the Columbian Exposition of 1893 gradually led to a slackening of demand for the local stone. Brownstone remained in use



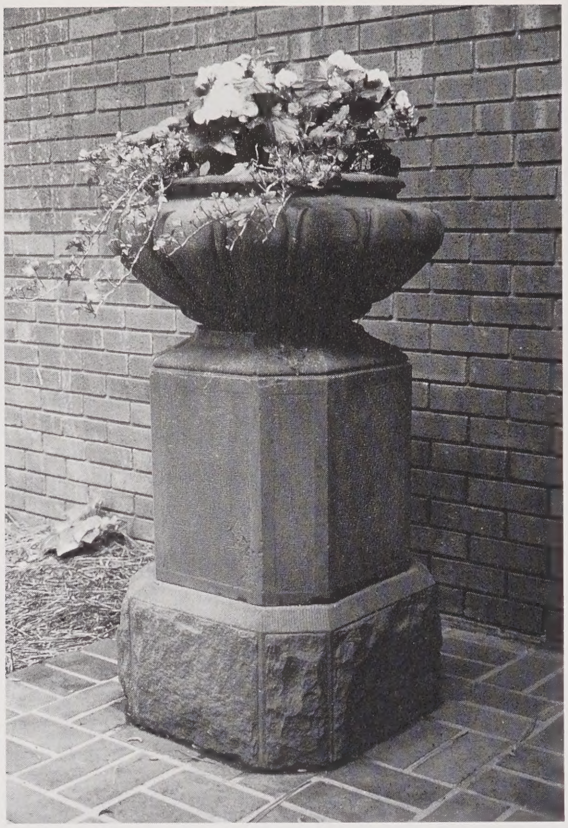


Figures 3.10, 3.11, 3.12
Scenes from the Aldrich Stone Company quarry in South Sanford, ca. 1897. One view shows a derrick loading slabs of brownstone onto a railroad flatcar in front of the machinery shed. The other views show stonecutters splitting blocks. (Photos courtesy of Elizabeth Carrington O'Connell)

locally, though, for window lintels and other facade trim in downtown Sanford commercial buildings. The county's most public example of brownstone craftsmanship dates to this twilight period of the industry. The Lee County Courthouse, built in 1908, features brownstone column bases and Ionic capitals that were probably carved at a quarry operated by Carrington and Gonella. By 1927, Sanford's brownstone quarries had closed permanently, and the skinny-dipping children of the town had reclaimed their swimming hole.[64]

The brownstone quarries, the Sanford Sash & Blind factory, and other industries provided an economic foundation for Sanford's African-American community. Black neighborhoods also developed at Jonesboro and several rural locations during the late 1800s. The rural communities appear to have coalesced from former slaveholdings; Blacknel, for example, developed on the edge of the rich bottomlands at the confluence of the Deep and Haw rivers, near the antebellum plantations of Elias Bryan and others. In 1870, the community centered on the farm of Daniel Blacknel and numbered among its residents a blacksmith and several "turpentine

Figure 3.13
Brownstone urn carved by John F. Gonella and displayed at the Atlanta Exposition of 1895.



hands," workers in the longleaf pine forests of the area.[65] Other rural African-American communities with roots in the period include New Hope, located on the North Plank Road (SR 1007) near Carbonton; Tempting, located on NC 42 between Carbonton and Sanford; and Murchisontown, located on SR 1169 southwest of Swann's Station. New Hope and Tempting were formed by freedmen from the Palmer plantation and other farms in the northwestern quadrant of the county, while Murchisontown is said to have been established by Jack Murchison (d. 1922), a farmer and preacher at Murchison Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church.[66]

Although most of Lee County's African-American residents worked as laborers on farms and in forests during the period, Jonesboro and Sanford offered the best opportunities for advancement. Both towns had sizable black populations in 1880: African-Americans represented approximately 35 percent of Jonesboro's 372 residents and over 45 percent of Sanford's 236 residents. Most blacks worked as day laborers and domestic servants in the two towns, but others practiced trades. Jonesboro's Marshal Godfrey and Sanford's Jack Miller and David W. Womack were carpenters, and others worked as blacksmiths and barbers.[67]

African-American congregations formed early in the towns. Sanford's Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Church was organized in 1868 by Peter McNaght and A. M. Barrett; in 1871 the congregation built a simple, one-story, board-and-batten chapel that was probably the first church building in downtown Sanford. About 1867, the Rev. McNair, "a white missionary from the North," laid the foundations for Blandonia United Presbyterian Church. Under its first pastor, the Rev. F. L. Montgomery, Blandonia began construction of a church building south of the downtown in 1889.[68] At Egypt, the trustees of St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church purchased a lot one mile south of the coal mine in 1880, and Jonesboro's St. John's Presbyterian Church was organized by 1892 when the congregation purchased a lot at the corner of Dalrymple, Globe, and Humber streets.[69]

The core of Sanford's African-American community developed to the south of downtown during the late nineteenth century, near major employers of black workers such as Sanford Sash & Blind and the Aldrich quarry. John D. McIver, one of the original owners of the site of Sanford, sold many lots to black purchasers in this area beginning in the 1890s.[70] By the early twentieth century, African-American subdivisions with names such as Blandland, Lincoln Heights, and Bluefield had been established south of the downtown. At least one black businessman, John A. Womack, managed to overcome Sanford's spatial segregation by operating a bakery on South Moore Street in the heart of the town's white business district during the 1890s.[71] Another member of Sanford's black community, P. H. Holmes, served as a town alderman in 1902.[72]

Lee County experienced the racial strife that plagued the rest of the nation during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Ku Klux Klan appears to have been most active locally during the Reconstruction period and again during a revival of the Klan in the 1920s.[73] The economic strains of the early postwar period, coupled with the challenge to the traditional political structure presented by the enfranchisement of blacks and the presence of federal troops and Freedmen's Bureau agents, fueled Klan activities. Violent incidents during the period included whippings, barn burnings, and school burnings.[74]

One racial confrontation erupted in Sanford on Christmas Day of 1888. A fistfight and gun battle between a black man and a white saloon keeper attracted a group of angry black onlookers. The conflict escalated, and the town authorities feared Sanford was "at the mercy of a mob" that would "burn up [the] town." The governor was telegraphed to send troops, and a posse of local whites was called. The next morning, fourteen blacks were sent to jail in Carthage, and the following week a group of about forty white men formed the Sanford Light Infantry, stating, "We organize for self protection."[75] News accounts over the course of the following year suggest continued animosity between the races, but also an attempt at reconciliation. On the positive side, the press reported that the Rev. F. L. Montgomery of Blandonia Church "has been making zealous efforts to improve the condition mentally and morally of his people and he deserves the encouragement of the white people."[76]

Both blacks and whites benefited from the economic diversification that sustained Jonesboro and Sanford and ensured steady population growth. Less certain was the future of the village that developed at the Egypt coal mine. Throughout its history, Egypt—or Cumnock, as it was later known—suffered from its reliance on a single industry with changeable fortunes. Times were good for Egypt while it served as the terminus of the Western Railroad during and after the Civil War. Indeed, the number of merchants who listed Egypt as their post office peaked at eight in 1869, more than the number who listed Pittsboro, the Chatham County seat. Control of the mine returned to northern interests after the war. The continued operation of the nearby Endor Iron Furnace by Wilmington, Delaware industrialist George Lobdell and others during the 1870s also contributed to Egypt's prosperity.[77] But when the Western Railroad moved its terminus westward and the Egypt mine closed in the early 1870s, storekeepers and others gradually drifted away.

Despite the closing of the Egypt mine, other Deep River mines and coal pits continued to operate during the 1870s and 1880s, among them the Chambers, Foushee, Murchison, Stan-

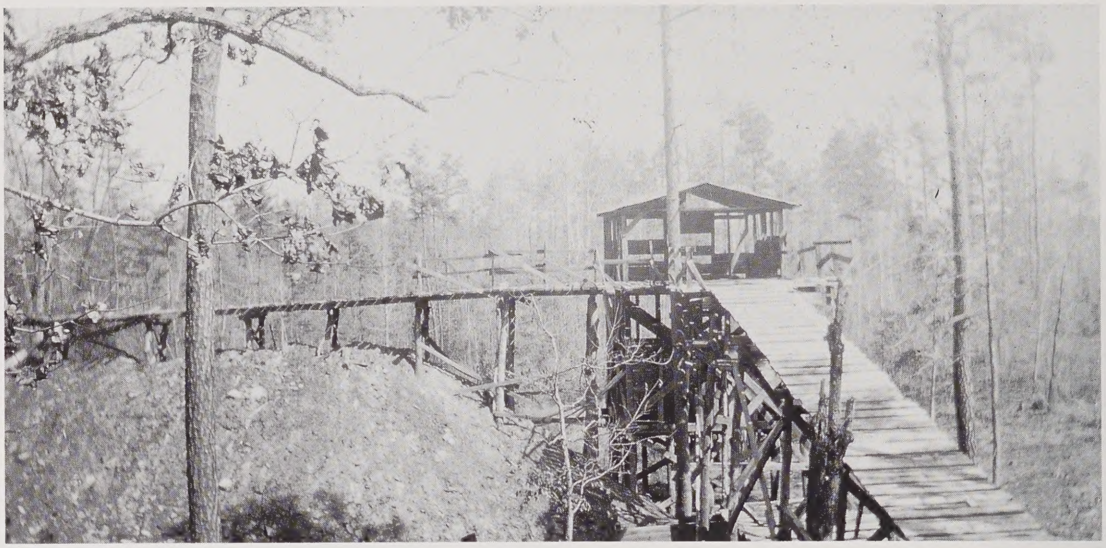


Figure 3.14 McIver coal mine, located behind the site of the former Evander McIver House on Cotten Road (SR 1403) southeast of Cumnock (Photo, date unknown, courtesy of Jean Lane Fonville)

Figures 3.15 (above), 3.16 (below) Cumnock, ca. 1900. The first view shows the mine itself; the second view shows buildings located between the mine and the village of Cumnock, including *(from left to right)* a store and/or boarding house and, in the distance, a railroad car barn, the Egyptian Inn (with what may be a water tower standing beside it), and, to the far right, the Egypt Big House. (Courtesy of Mrs. Roosevelt Beal)

back, Tyson, Wicker & Dye, and Willcox workings.[78] One or two coal mines were worked on the Evander McIver estate southeast of Egypt during the late 1800s (Fig. 3.14). The McIver mines may have opened at the outset of the Civil War, when the terminus of the Western Railroad was located on the McIver plantation.[79]

Egypt's prospects again brightened in 1888, when Philadelphian Samuel A. Henszey, representing his uncle William P. Henszey and other northern capitalists, acquired the mine and 2,400 acres of coal and timberland (Figs. 3.15, 3.16). The acquisition by the Henszeys' Egypt Coal Company came two years before the completion of the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway from Fayetteville to Wilmington, a link that provided the firm with improved marketing capabilities. Egypt's rail connections were further enhanced in 1890–91, when the Henszeys built the Egypt Railway to connect their mine to the Raleigh & Augusta line at Colon, a distance of eight miles. In 1892, the Raleigh & Western Railway Company was chartered to extend the Egypt Railway to Randolph County, but although fifteen miles of road bed were graded, the line was not completed.[80]

"Egypt will soon be a town of miners. Dwellings and store houses are to be built immediately," crowed the local press.[81] In an excess of the boosterism that characterized the era, the Egypt Coal Company platted a vast metropolis at Egypt, and it succeeded in building a Queen Anne–style wood-shingled hotel, the Egyptian Inn (Figs. 3.17, 3.18, 3.19). The collapse of this development scheme several years later had no observable effect on mining activities at Egypt. By 1898, the mine produced four hundred tons of coal a day from three "slopes" or mine sectors. A hundred tons were furnished daily to the Seaboard railroad (the successor to the Raleigh & Augusta line). Two hundred miners were employed at Egypt, including twenty-three who had just arrived from Pennsylvania in February 1898.[82]

The 1890s saw the return of the mine gas explosions that had taken so many lives before and during the Civil War. At 8:20 on the morning of December 19, 1895, as reported by the Pittsboro-based *Chatham Record*, mine personnel on the surface "were startled by a rumbling noise in the mine, the terrible meaning of which they too well knew." Mine superintendent

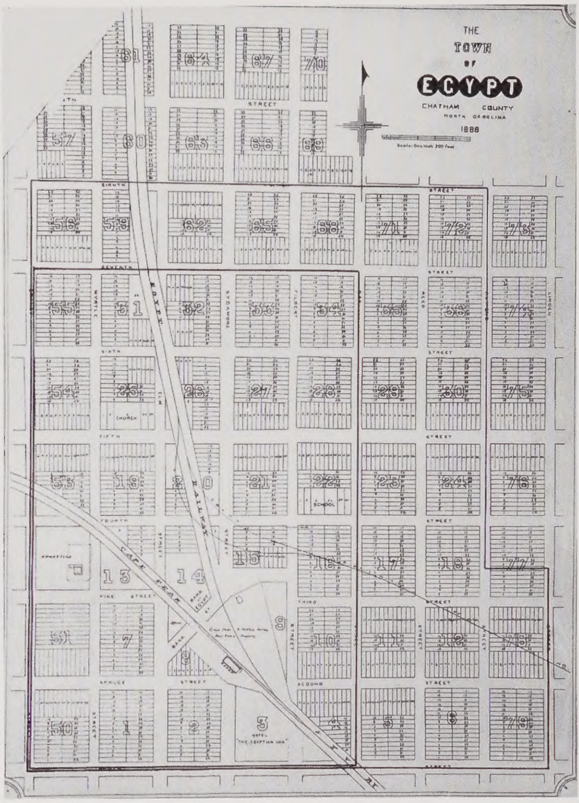


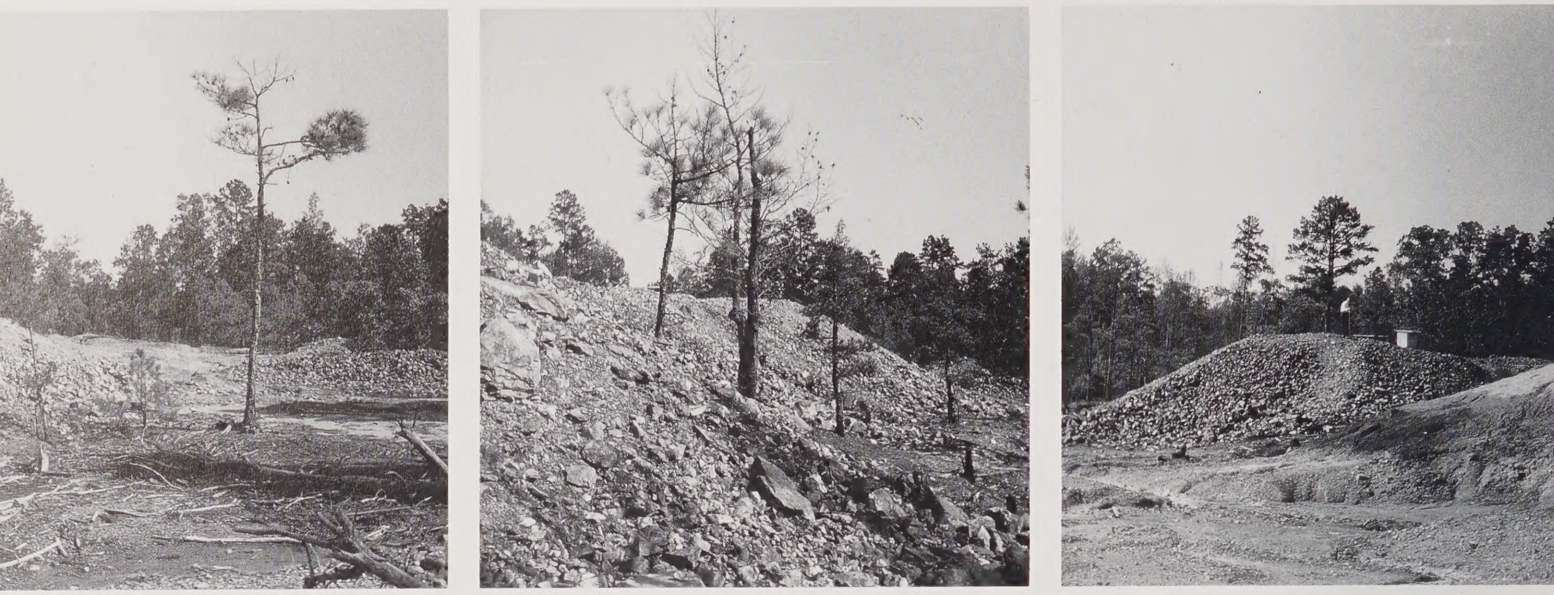
Figure 3.17
The metropolis of Egypt as platted in 1888

George F. Cant descended into the shaft and found a "silence most profound and oppressive brood[ing] over the blackened bodies of the dead." An explosion had converted Slope 1 into a "charnel house"—all thirty-seven miners in the slope were killed. In the final tally, forty-three or forty-four miners lost their lives in the blast, most from local families. The foreign miners who died left widows and children who "did not have a day's rations ahead" when the disaster occurred. Communities across the state contributed aid for the relief of the stricken families.[83]

According to local tradition, the December 19, 1895 explosion so tarnished the mine's reputation that shortly thereafter Egypt's name was changed to Cumnock, after a mining town in the Strathclyde region of Scotland.[84] However, the new name was already in use by May 1895, when the Cumnock Post Office was established.[85] Whatever the sequence of events, changing the mine's name did not correct the conditions that created the disaster, and in May 1900 another explosion claimed twenty-five lives.[86] The spate of disasters, disagreements among the mine's owners, and financial reversals led to the closing of the Cumnock mine in 1902, but the village of Cumnock managed to survive until a renewal of mining prosperity in the late 1910s.[87]

The cycle of boom and bust that characterized coal mining during the late nineteenth century also plagued Lee County's copper mining industry. In 1869, New Yorker Franklin Osgood purchased the shares of the Clegg Copper Mine, which had been worked during the 1850s near the present site of Deep River School. Osgood and others formed the Southern Copper Company and established a mining complex with offices, storage buildings, worker housing, several hundred-foot-deep shafts, and a subscription school. The village of Osgood sprang up nearby at a siding on the Raleigh & Augusta line. In an attempt to exercise control over the raw mining community they had created, in 1870 the mine owners successfully petitioned the state to out-

Figures 3.18, 3.19
Egyptian Inn (ca. 1890), Cumnock (demolished) (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)



Figures 3.20 Site of the Clegg copper mine, 1969 (Photos by Joe Webster)

law the sale of liquor within a three-mile radius of their operations.[88] In 1900, after a period of disuse, the Osgood mine acquired new owners. The Virginia-Carolina Mining & Manufacturing Company employed nearly two hundred workers at the mine before closing after only eighteen months of operation. Buildings associated with the reopened mine stood until the 1930s (Figs. 3.20).[89]

More important than mining to the overall development of Lee County was the dramatic expansion of the lumber and naval stores industries. With the construction of the Raleigh & Augusta line through the region in the early 1870s, lumber speculators descended on the county, buying up huge timber tracts. In 1883, a Raleigh newspaper declared that Moore County (of which Lee County formed the eastern tip) "exports more dollars worth of natural products, perhaps than any other county in the state."[90] Temporary lumber camps were established throughout the county; the remains of one survive today at the intersection of the Seaboard Coastline and Lower Moncure Road (SR 1002) near Blacknel.[91]

Farmers too benefited from the timber on their farms, especially from the resinous sap produced by the longleaf pine. Typically, farmers sold or bartered their crude turpentine to town merchants and country storekeepers. One of the latter was Jess D. Spivey, who collected his neighbors' turpentine in a barrel at his store on the headwaters of Pocket Creek. When Spivey's barrel was full it was sold to a distiller such as Duncan Morrison, who operated a still at a siding on the Seaboard line south of Lemon Springs.[92] Among the last local turpentine distilleries was that of W. D. Hunter, established in 1895 on the corner of Wicker and South Endor streets in Sanford. Hunter processed "yellow dip" collected from pines in the Northview vicinity north of Sanford, and he shipped most of his product to New York. The Hunter distillery closed within a year of opening.[93] After turpentine played out, some Lee County farmers put their distillery equipment to new and not entirely legal uses.

Tar kilns dotted the countryside, as they had since the beginning of settlement.[94] An unusually well defined pair of kilns survives just off Blakely Road (SR 1183) southwest of Lemon Springs.

The two kilns, which probably date from about 1900, illustrate the hillside siting and oval form typical of such facilities.[95] Lemon Springs tar shipper John J. Edwards described the tar manufacturing process as it was practiced locally around 1900. "A pit was dug in the earth, and then covered over so as to permit firing from one end. Lightwood was split into sticks, placed in the pit and fired. The tar oozed out and ran into a receptacle at the lower end of the pit."[96]

The naval stores industry provided an economic foundation for Lemon Springs, a village that formed after 1890 at a station on the Raleigh & Augusta line (Fig. 3.21). During the 1890s, Lemon Springs is said to have profited from the five hundred barrels of tar shipped out each year.[97] By 1896, three general stores had opened, and publication of a newspaper called *The Hustler* had begun, even though the village numbered fewer than fifty inhabitants. Early merchants included John J. Edwards, David L. Guess, John K. McLeod, Reynolds Brothers, and the partnership of George W. Smith and Duncan D. Buie.[98] Smith & Buie accepted crude turpentine, poultry, and other country produce in exchange for goods at their general store, and Smith operated a turpentine distillery in 1898. The partnership also operated a sawmill and built houses in the community.[99] In 1918, merchants Edwards, Buie, and M. C. Reeves incorporated the Farmer's Cotton Gin Company and constructed a gin house—a utilitarian board-and-batten building with a brick basement—that stood until recent years.[100]

Lemon Springs' cultural life revolved around the James Maske Academy, later known as the Caldwell School, and early churches such as the Lemon Springs United Methodist Church (organized as Midway Church in 1890) and the Lemon Springs Baptist Church (organized in 1924).[101] The village began to take on its present form and appearance in 1910, when Frank Allen of Raleigh laid out his land on the north side of the village into lots and streets.[102]

The forest wealth that formed the economic lifeblood of Lemon Springs and other communities did not last indefinitely. Indeed, by 1915, a state forester observed, "The forests of Lee have been so closely cut over, owing to the excellent transportation facilities, that there is less standing timber than in any other county so far examined."[103] He noted the recent departure of several large lumber mills, but hardwood consumers such as furniture, sash and blind factories, and buggy factories continued to operate at Sanford, Jonesboro, and Broadway. Eventually the county's woodworking industries were forced to turn to suppliers in the western part of the state for raw materials. The condition of county forests continued to worsen in the 1920s. "Lee County is one of the most impoverished counties in the State in the matter of forest resources," wrote one observer. "The old original stands are gone; unchecked forest fires [occur] periodically."[104]

Forest fires took a heavy toll on the land and people. By the end of the nineteenth century, years of tar making, pine boxing, and lumbering had transformed southern Lee County into a vast tinder box. In April 1889, a fire raged over five square miles of countryside east of Lemon Springs, and similar conflagrations became a yearly occurrence.[105] One longtime resident of the Murchisontown area recalled, "Everybody would hate to see spring come. The wind would get up and here would come a fire."[106] Sparks from railroad and tramway locomotives were often blamed for the fires, but the agricultural, industrial, and domestic use of fire was so prevalent during the period that uncontrolled burns were nearly inevitable. Wildfires destroyed standing timber, fences, and buildings, and account in part for the virtual absence of early houses and barns in the southern section of the county.

As Lee County's forests dwindled during the last quarter of the nineteenth century and the

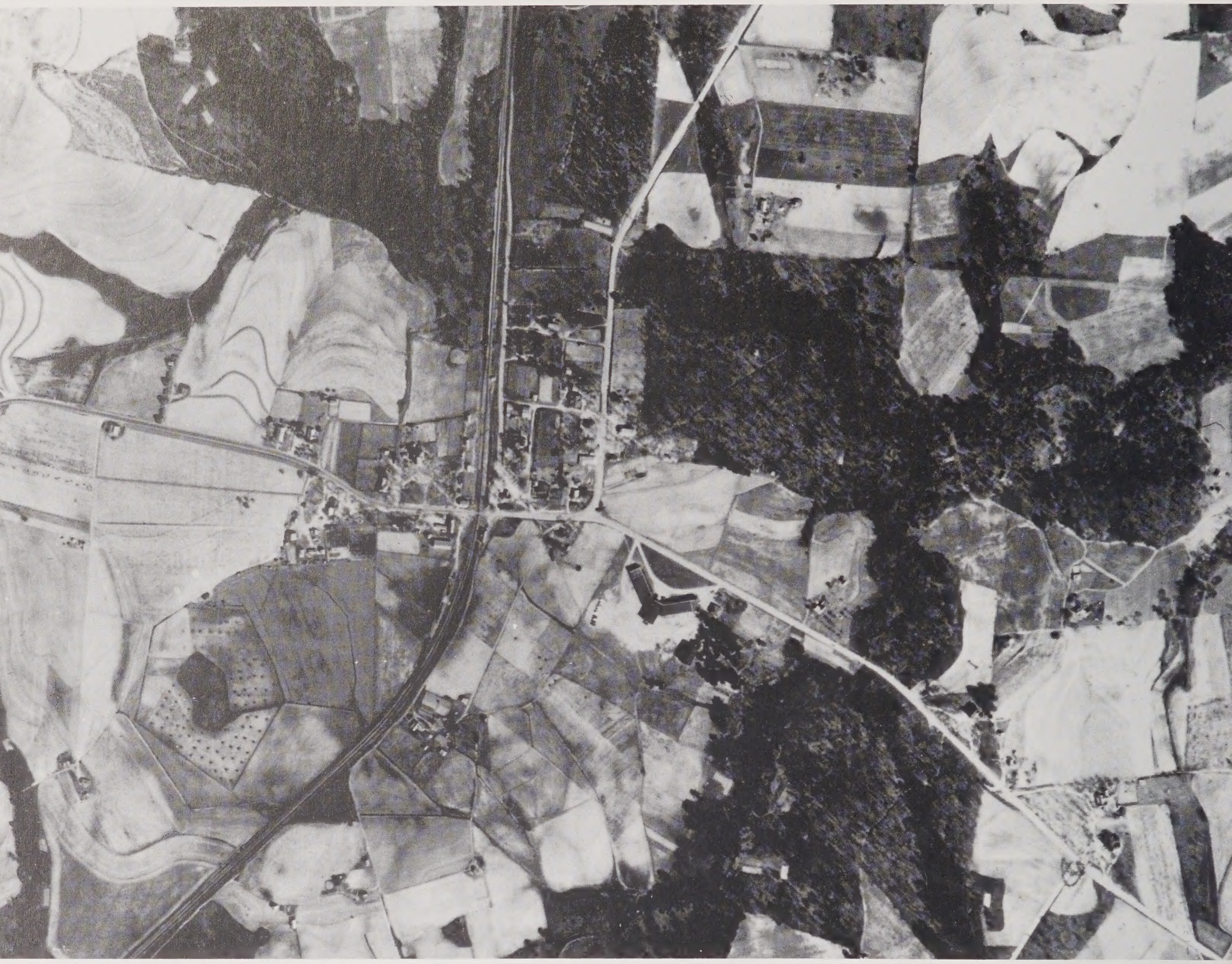


Figure 3.21
Aerial view of Lemon Springs in 1938 (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

first years of the twentieth, the area available for agriculture increased. Cotton figured as the county's principal cash crop during the period, even though production was modest in comparison with other areas of the state. In 1910, the county's 4,279 bales represented only 0.6 percent of the state's total production, yet the Lee County area was more productive than adjoining areas in Chatham and Moore counties.[107] Before 1907, half of Moore County's cotton gins were located in the area that became Lee County, principally in Jonesboro and (by the 1880s and 1890s) Sanford.[108] In the early 1900s, cotton was often stored on farms in simple frame buildings known as "cotton houses." One of the few surviving cotton houses identified in the county is preserved on the Berke Thomas Farm, located on Berke Thomas Road (SR 1535) outside of Broadway (Fig. 3.22). Before shipment, cotton was compressed into bales in an apparatus known as a cotton press. A press dating to the nineteenth century formerly stood on the John

D. McIver Farm in Sanford; the timber structure, constructed with wood pegs, featured a pyramidal wood-shingled roof and a stout wood screw that was turned by horses (Fig. 3.23).

The fresh land cleared by lumbering activity attracted cotton farmers from other regions. About 1900, a farmer from Union County settled near Jonesboro; by 1907, forty-eight Union County families had moved to the sandy-soiled, recently timbered southeastern quadrant of Lee County. A Jonesboro booster of the period declared, "Their glowing reports sent back to their home localities, has set in motion toward Jonesboro and adjoining country a steady and growing stream of the highest and most desirable class of settlers."[109] Negative factors also played a role in the migration. One cotton farmer, James P. McDavid of the Greenville vicinity of South Carolina, moved to the Jonesboro area in 1920 partly to escape the boll weevil; within a few years, the boll weevil had caught up with him.[110]

Tobacco cultivation experienced brief popularity in Lee County during the 1880s. Several members of the Harrington family experimented with the crop in 1884 and sold their product at the Raleigh market. By 1885, more farmers had begun to plant the crop, prompting W. A. Sloan & Company to open the Buffalo Warehouse in Jonesboro. Jonesboro's second selling floor, the Jumbo Warehouse, was built in 1886 by the firm of Buchanan & Bynum. In Sanford, Henry A. Bland of Bland Godwin & Company erected the Buffalo Smoking Tobacco Factory—a two-story board-and-batten building—near the intersection of South Steele and Wall streets in 1885. However, despite all this activity, interest in tobacco quickly waned. According to one observer, "The Jonesboro market was a failure because the price of tobacco was so low that the planters could not raise it at a profit."[111] Not until the 1910s would farmers grow significant tobacco crops again.

The railroad revolutionized every aspect of the county's agriculture and industry during the period. It also gave rise to the county's leading nineteenth-century watering place: Lemon

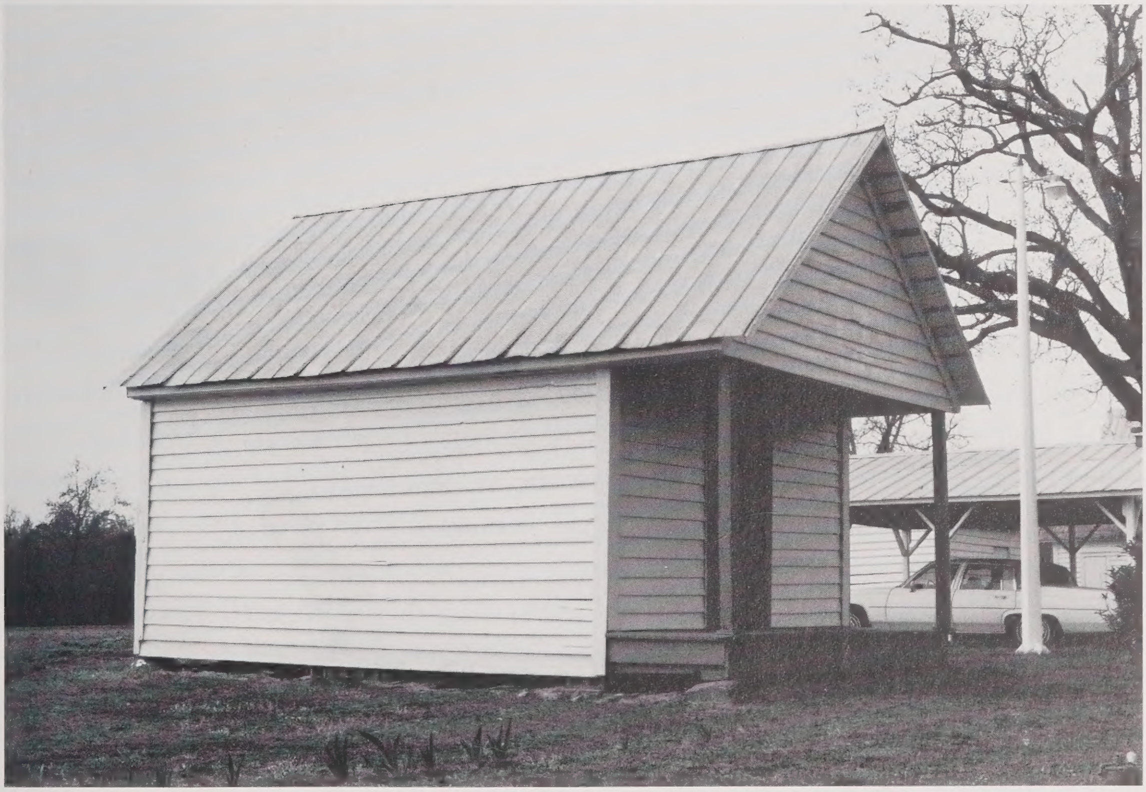


Figure 3.22 Berke Thomas Farm cotton house, early 1900s, 309 Berke Thomas Road (SR 1535), Broadway vicinity

Springs (not to be confused with the nearby village of the same name). John W. Scott, Sr., who purchased vast tracts of land along the Raleigh & Augusta line during the 1870s, also acquired a mineral spring in the Sandhills section of the county and planned to develop a resort at the site. In 1878, a group of investors joined with Scott to build a resort hotel at the spring, named Lemon Springs after the Lemon (or Lemons) family, the former owners. Guests arrived by railroad, disembarking several miles to the east at the Lemon Springs depot.[112] But just as the first guests checked in, disaster struck. "A group of five men," who had banded together after the Civil War "to prevent any improvements in the neighborhood," burned the building to the ground.[113] Undaunted, Scott built another hotel, a two-story frame building with a front veranda, Victorian styling, and a landscaped carriage drive. This building, a circular brownstone spring curb, and the carriage drive survive today.

The hotel at Lemon Springs and other Victorian buildings exemplify the richly ornamented architecture adopted in Lee County during the late nineteenth century. Tastes did not change overnight, however; the Greek Revival style outlived the antebellum period and remained popular for a decade or longer after the Civil War. Greek Revival houses dating to the late 1860s, like the M. Henry and Sallie H. McIver House on US 421 and the original section of the Thomas-Howard House on Buckhorn Road (SR 1538), were not much different from houses built before the war. The construction of the Raleigh & Augusta line in the 1870s proved a more important factor in the evolution of the county's architecture than the economic and social disruption of the war. The earlier Western Railroad had reinforced Lee County's traditional economic and cultural ties to the regional hub of Fayetteville, but the R&A brought the county into more direct contact with mainstream culture by linking it via Raleigh to the major urban and cultural centers of the Eastern Seaboard. The R&A made travel easier and exposure to the fashions of the outside world more likely, and it made mass-produced goods more accessible to Lee County consumers, gradually eroding the reliance on home manufactures and, by extension, local traditions of construction and design.

The railroad also changed the county's architecture through a broader transformation of the local economy. The lumber industry introduced new technologies for the manufacturing of materials. Local building material manufacturers such as the Sanford Sash & Blind Company flooded the market with standardized, professionally designed building components. Frame construction, once the exception in a county dominated by log buildings, became the norm. The expanding economy heightened demand for new construction, especially in the county's thriving towns, and the citizenry itself changed as enterprising individuals from other areas moved in, bringing with them cultural expectations that supplemented those of the indigenous population.

Two houses from the 1870s—the Railroad House in Sanford and the Atlas and Jackie M. Gross House near Swann's Station—serve to illustrate the complex workings of the economic transformation on the county's domestic architecture. Built by the Western Railroad as a residence for its station agent, the 1872 Railroad House is a one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling with board-and-batten siding and Gothic Revival styling (Figs. 3.24, 3.25, 3.26). The house represented something entirely new in Lee County. As a Gothic Revival building—a distant relative of the medieval cathedrals and a close cousin of the villa and cottage designs of A. J. Downing and other antebellum American theorists—the Railroad House broke with the Georgian/Greek Revival classicism that had dominated the architecture of the local elite since the days of the

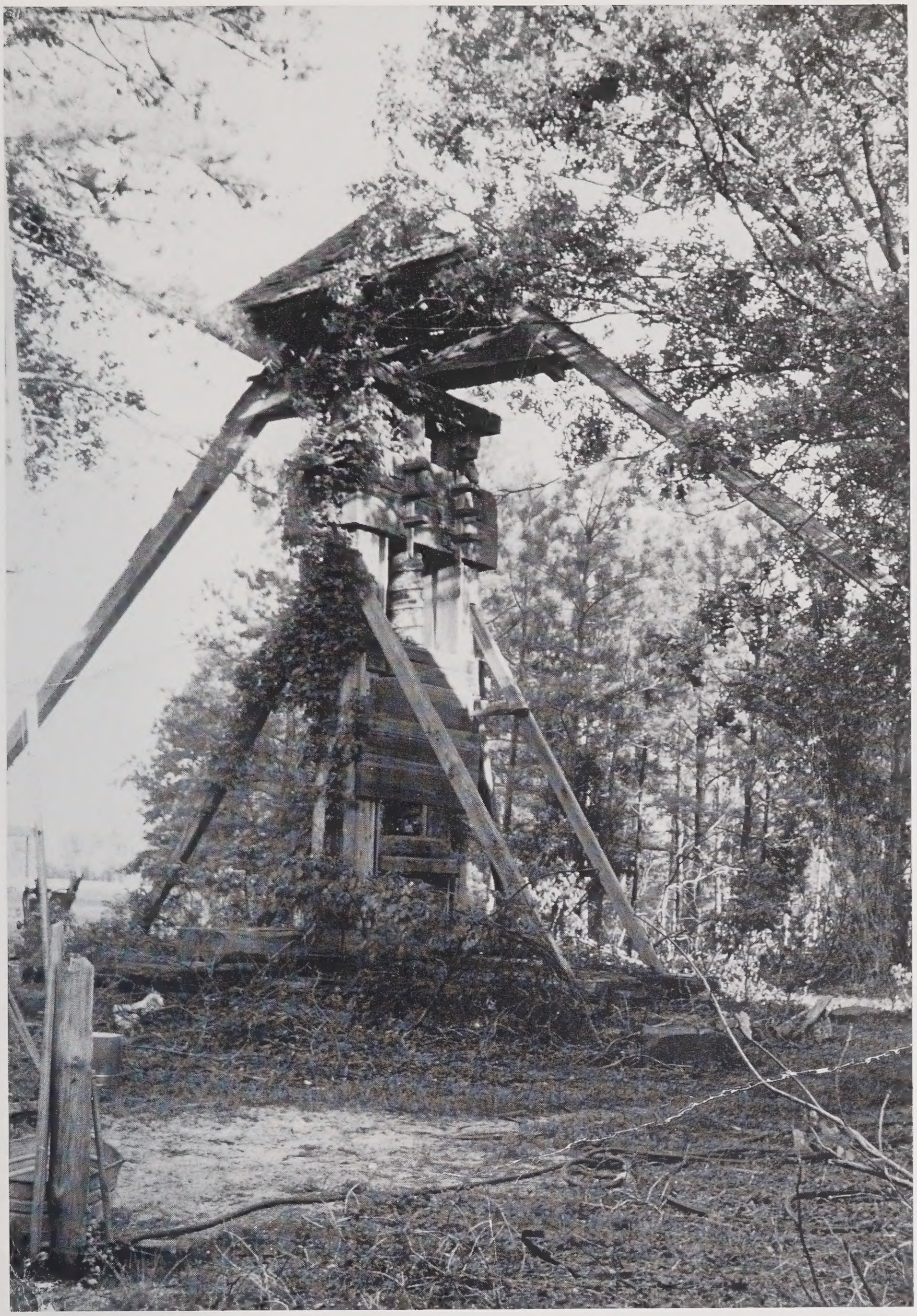
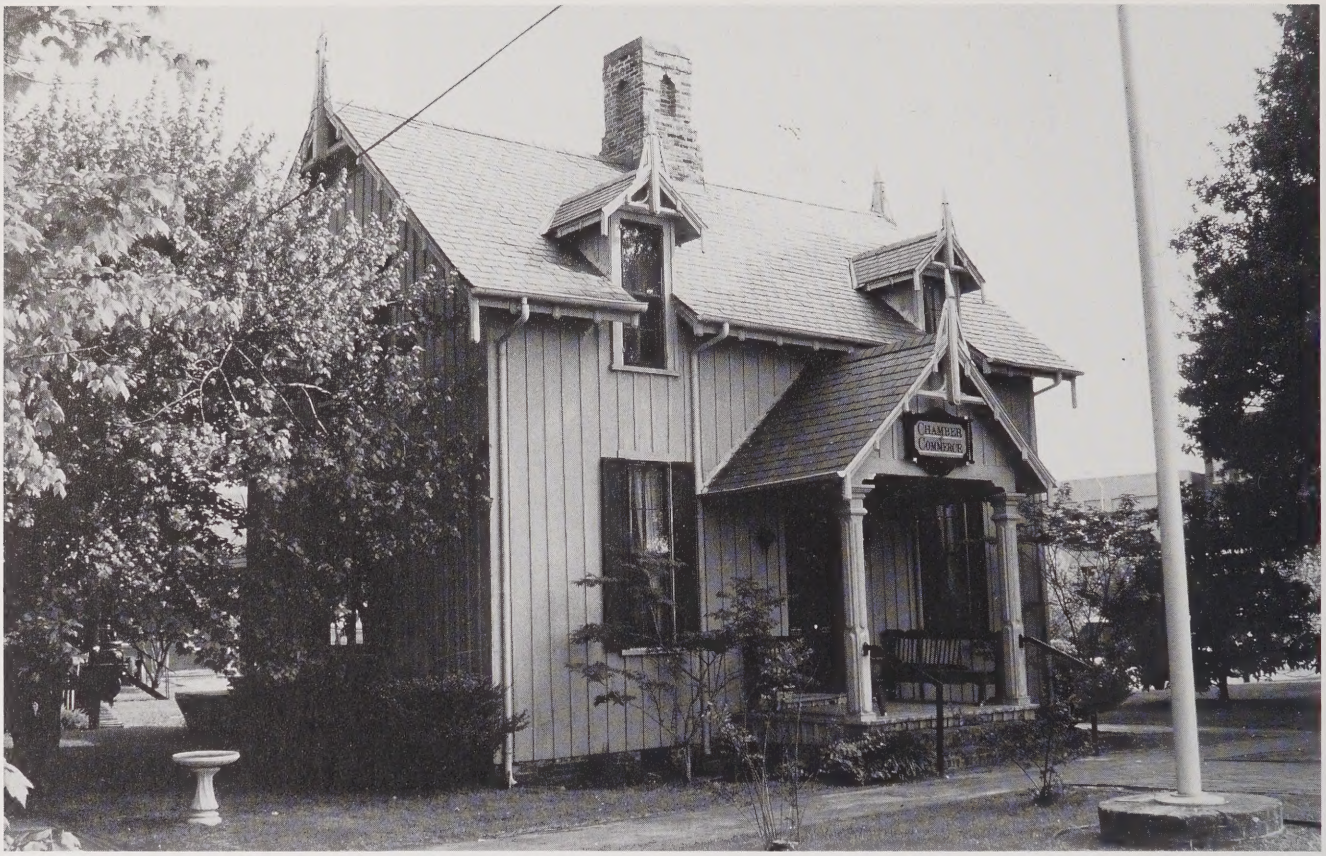
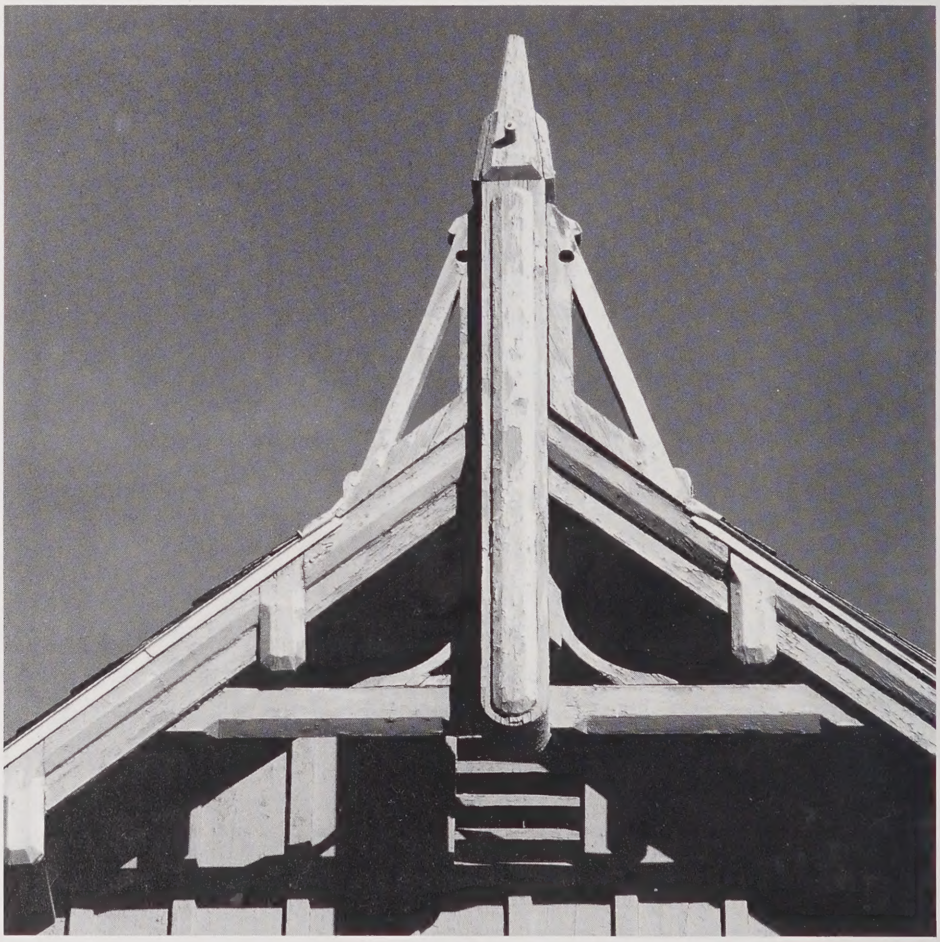


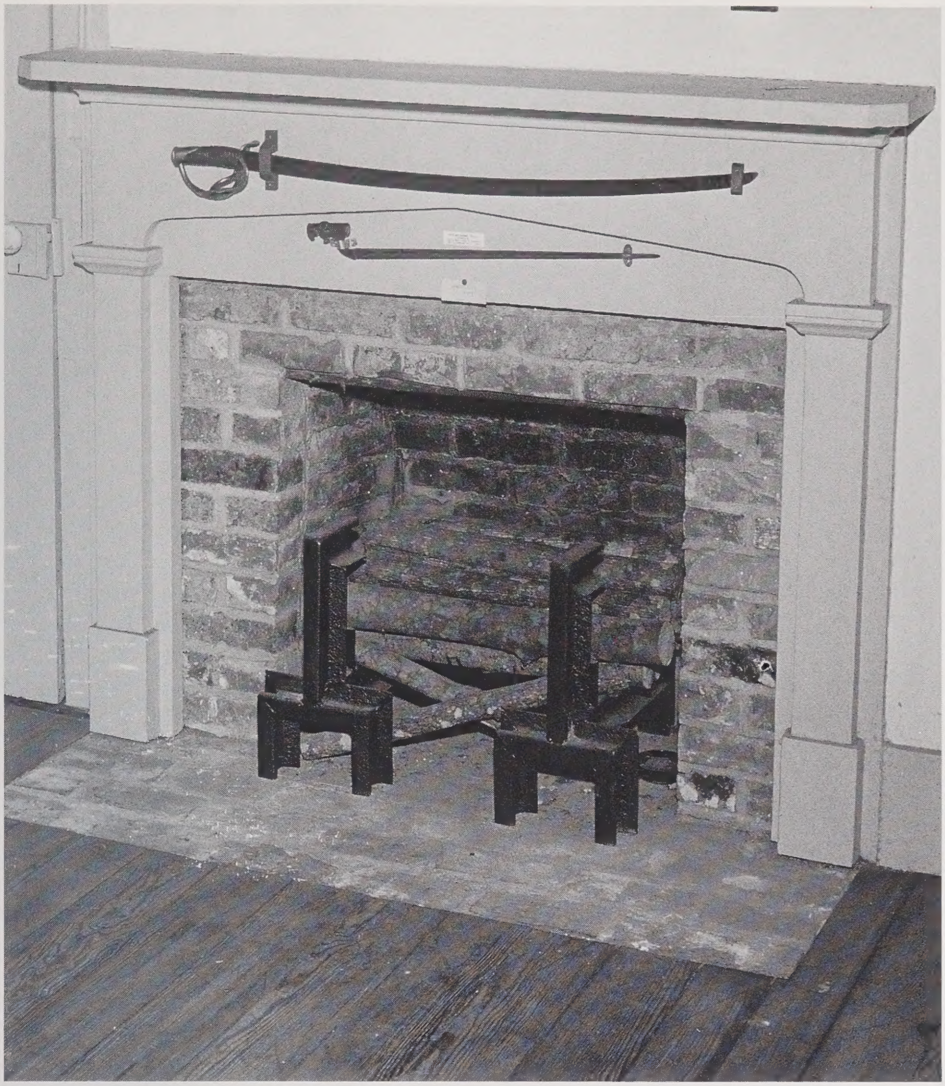
Figure 3.23
John D. McIver cotton press (late 1800s; demolished), which stood at the southwest corner of Wilkins and Windmill drives, Sanford (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

Tyson House. Also, unlike earlier houses, which were conceived and built by locally trained, vernacular builders, the Railroad House was the product of an architect or engineer associated with the railroad—an outsider well acquainted with the architectural currents of the national mainstream. Board-and-batten siding, dormers, interior chimneys, a transverse front-hall plan, and a coordinated palette of original exterior and interior paint colors further distinguished the house from the architecture that came before it. The picturesque styling of the Railroad House related it to other progressive architecture in the state—especially railroad architecture—and linked both house and community to the enlightened modernity of the outside world.



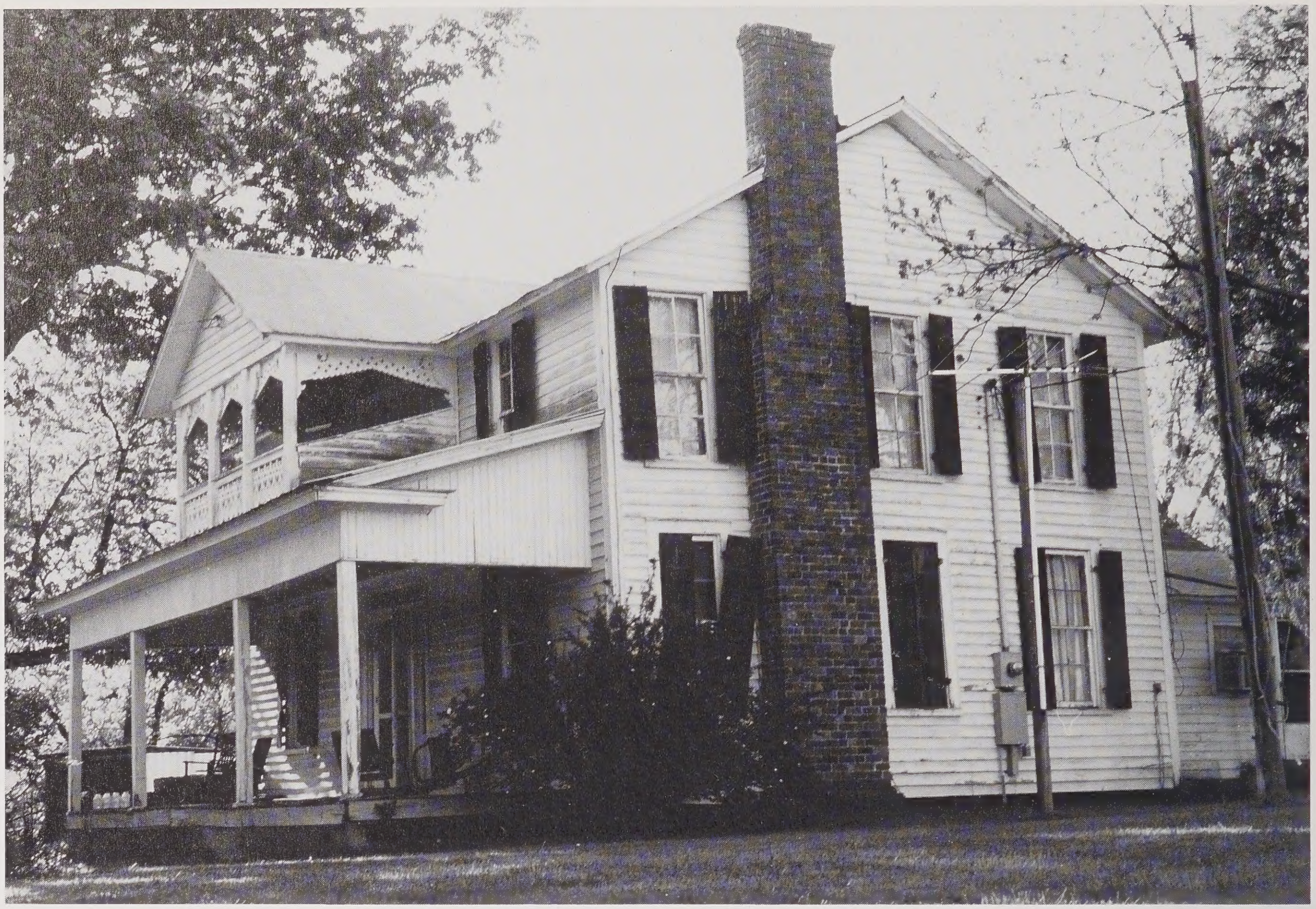
Figures 3.24, 3.25, 3.26 Exterior and interior views of the Railroad House (1872), 110 Charlotte Avenue, Sanford (Mantel photo by Hal Tysinger)





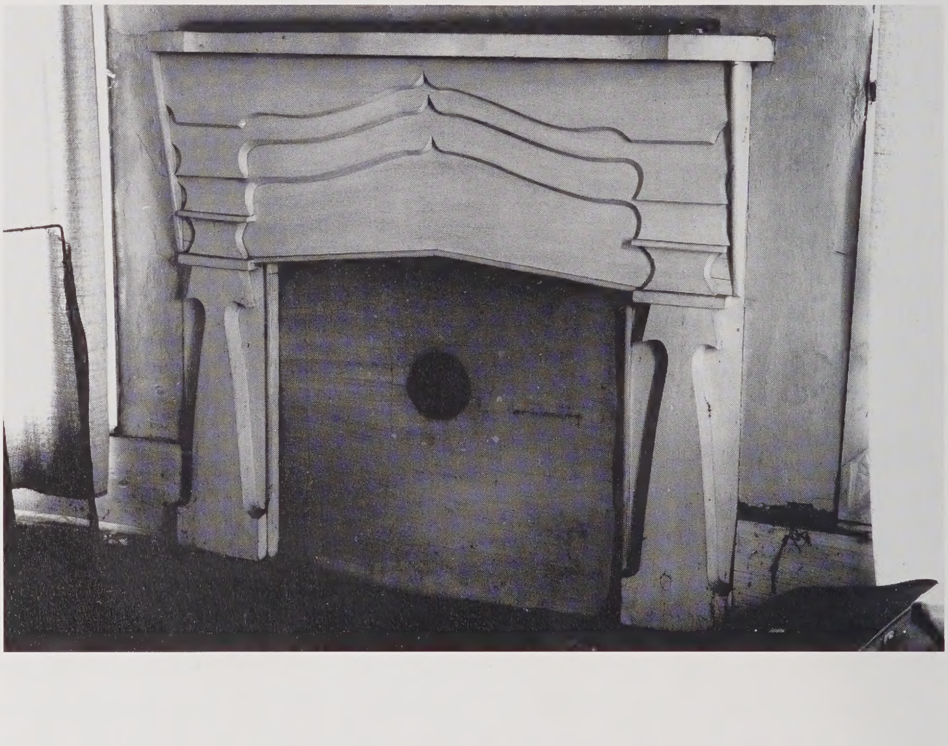
The Atlas and Jackie M. Gross House may have been built within a year or two of the Railroad House, apparently by local carpenter John M. Gaster (Figs. 3.27, 3.28). In form and construction, the house is conservative; its boxy massing places it in the antebellum tradition of the Murchison-Henley House and the Carbonton Academy Girls Dormitory, and its weatherboard siding, exterior chimneys, and center-passage plan are typical midcentury treatments. However, unlike its local predecessors, the Gross House features a decorative scheme more closely related to the Railroad House and late-nineteenth-century houses outside the area, with Gothic-inspired mantels and turned staircase details.

Here the similarity of the Gross House to mainstream architecture ends. The house's mantels are caricatures of academically "correct" Gothic Revival mantels like those of the Railroad House, with stacked frieze profiles and boldly carved pilasters that create a powerful visual effect. The knobby newel posts of the staircase (which call to mind stacks of croquet balls) represent vernacular interpretations of the turned newel posts of a professionally designed house of the period. Architecturally, the Gross House represents a partial and idiosyncratic assimilation of mainstream design concepts, a link between the traditional, locally conceived architecture of the antebellum period and the technological, professionally conceived architecture of the latter nineteenth and twentieth centuries.



Figures 3.27, 3.28
Exterior and interior views of the Atlas Gross House (ca. 1871), 4212 Cox Mill Road (SR 1529), Swann's Station vicinity

Figures 3.29, 3.30
Tinney Inn (ca. 1901), which formerly stood on Lee Avenue in Jonesboro (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)



As the Railroad House and Gross House demonstrate, advances in building technology broadened the range of architectural possibilities. Light frame construction allowed for greater creativity in composition. Builders broke out of the rigid symmetry of the antebellum period and developed more complex forms: houses with projecting wings, bay windows, turrets, and hip-and-gable roofs. Much of this activity took place in Jonesboro, as evidenced by the complex massing and exuberant detailing of such dwellings as the Jesse L. Godfrey House at 2525 Watson Avenue, the Charles A. and Lottie L. Hamilton House at 2520 Dalrymple Street, and the J. R. Watson House, moved to Sheriff Watson Road (SR 1162). Experimentation peaked with Jonesboro merchant Sion Buchanan's Tinney Inn (or Tenny Inn, also known as The Birches), which was probably built in 1901 (Figs. 3.29, 3.30). Located in the midst of dewberry fields on Lee Avenue—the main road leading out of Jonesboro to Sanford—the rambling resort hotel featured two-tier verandas, architecturally coordinated outbuildings, and octagonal turrets with conical roofs and large Queen Anne windows. Decorative millwork in the porches and gables, a polychrome paint scheme, and inverted heart-shaped gable vents were other details of this most

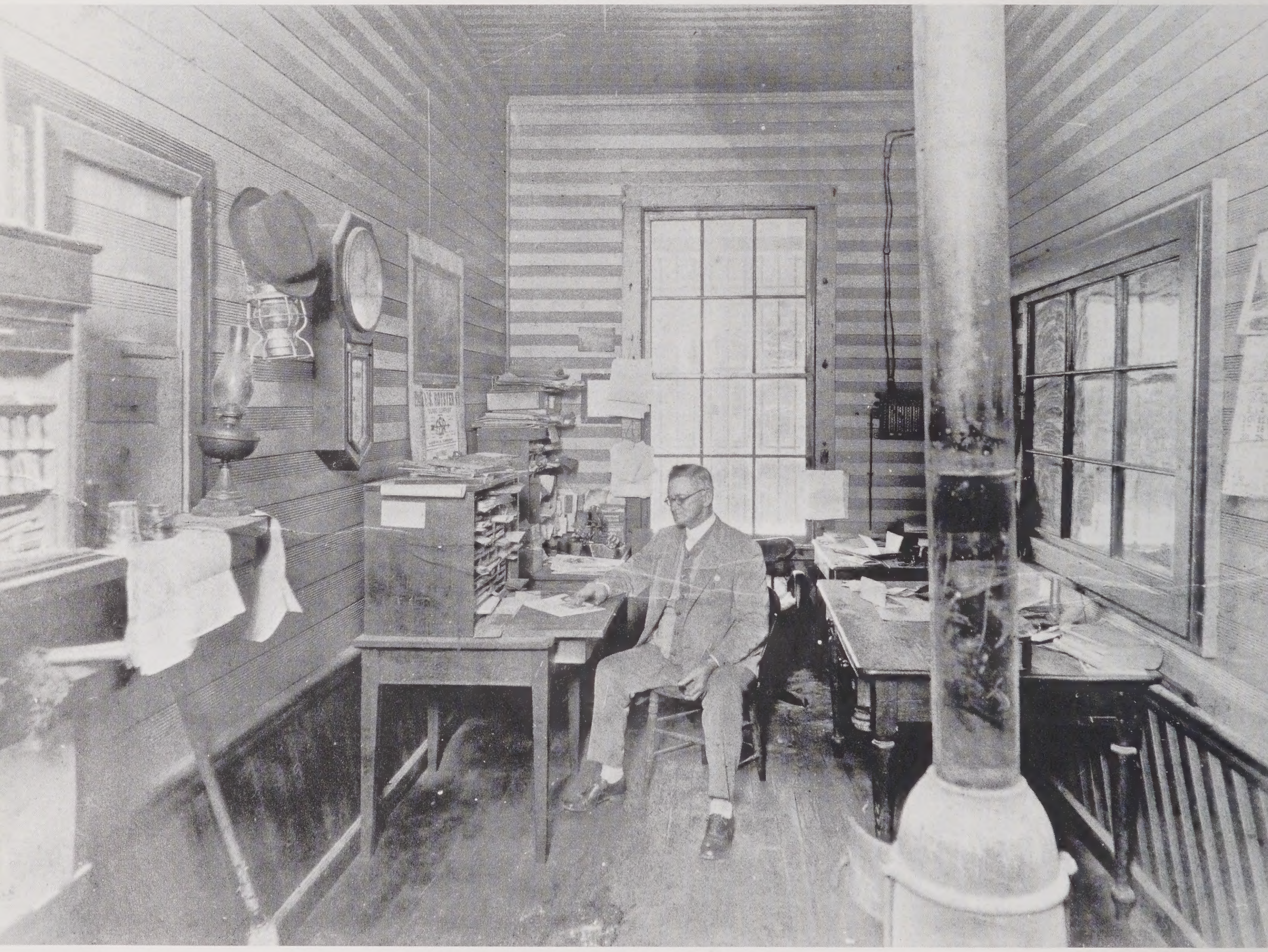
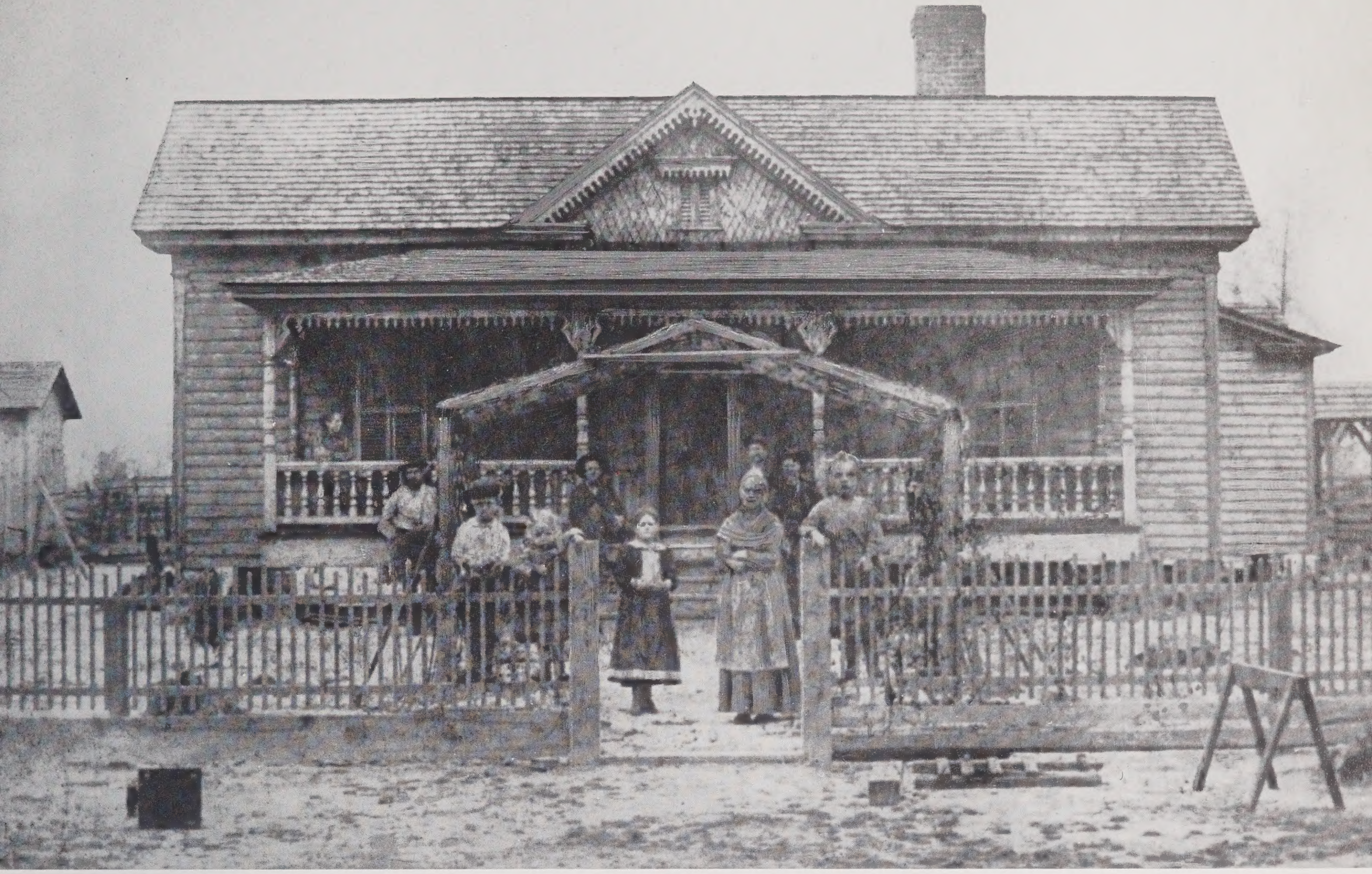


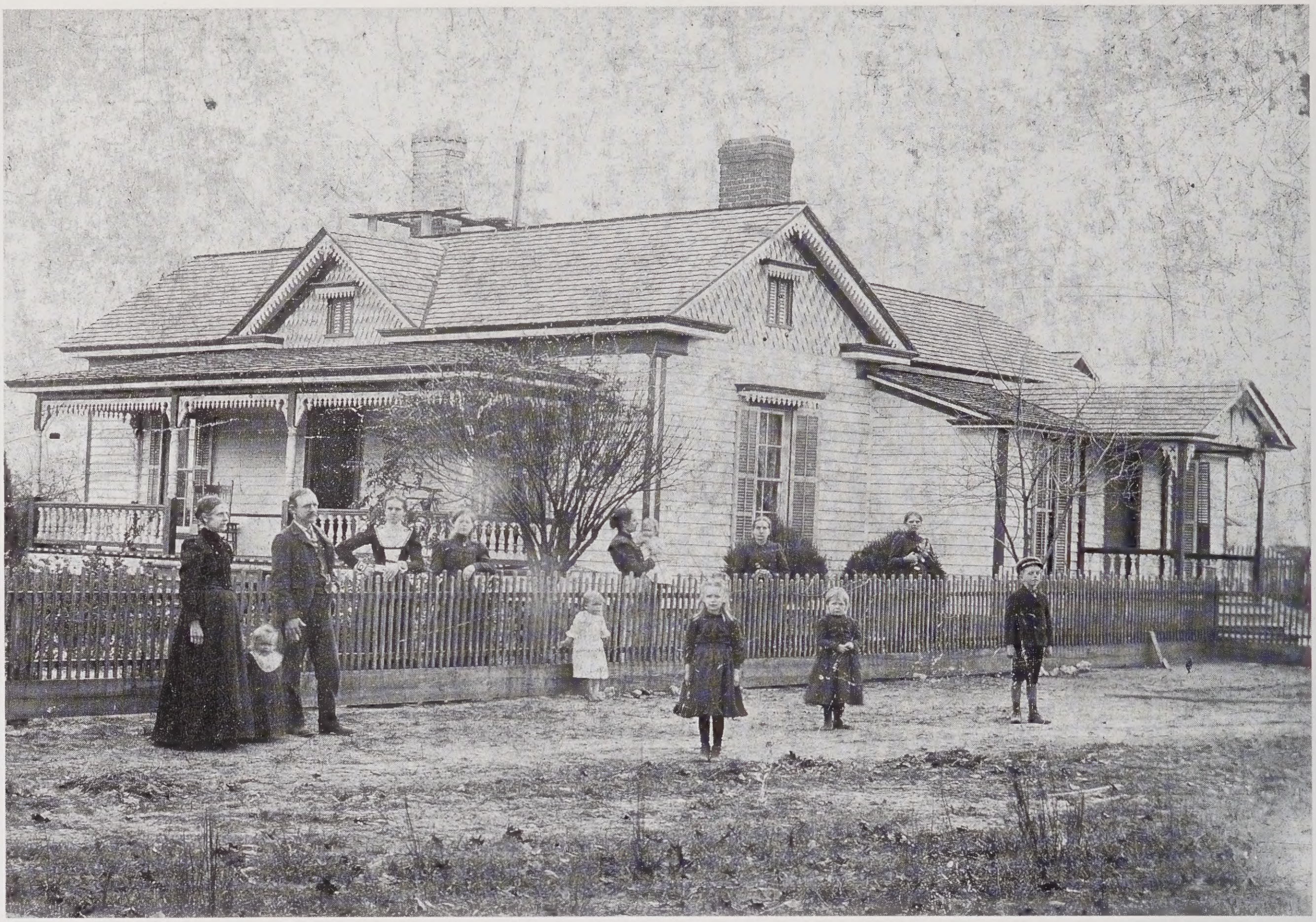
Figure 3.31 Interior of the Jonesboro depot. This early-twentieth-century photo shows the depot's decorative tongue-and-groove work. (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)



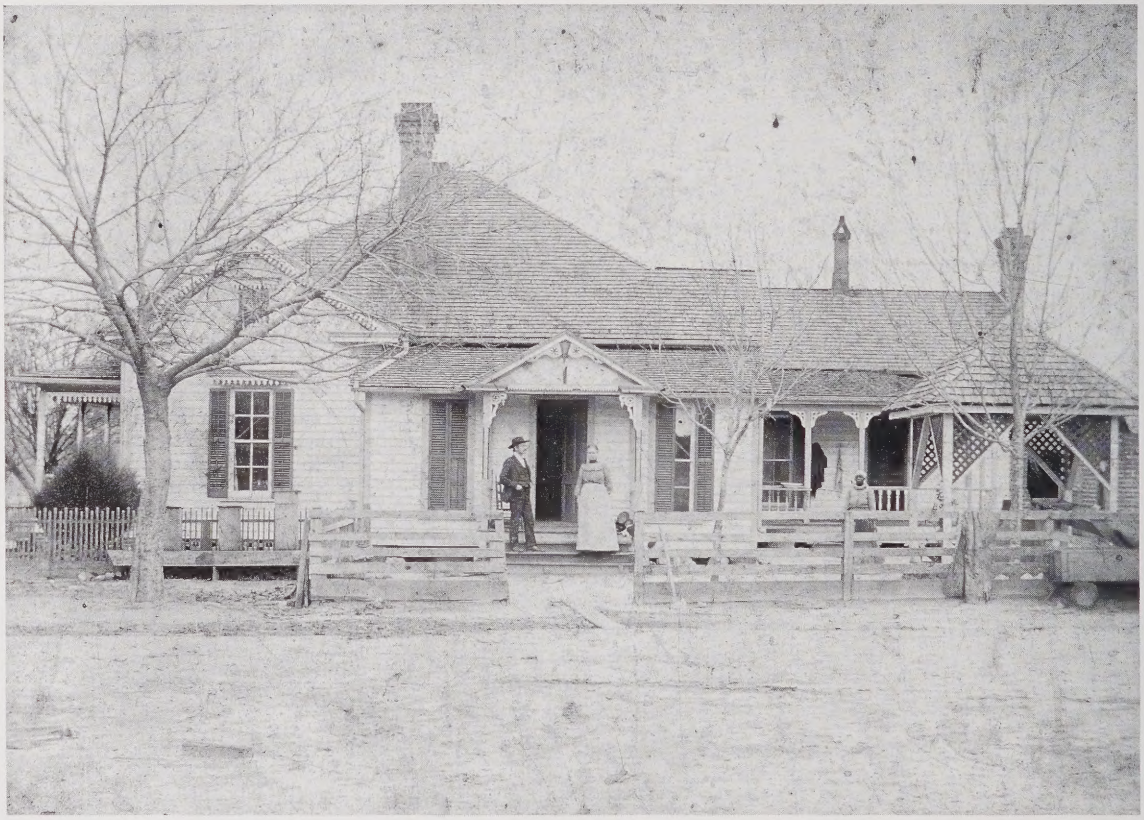
quixotic of Lee County's turn-of-the-twentieth-century buildings. The hotel burned in 1921, but a latticed gazebo that once stood on its grounds survives today in a Lee Avenue backyard.[114]

The establishment of planing mills and the local introduction of machinery for mass-producing turned and cut-out shapes made gingerbread ornament possible and affordable. Hardly a building was constructed that did not incorporate some form of machined ornamentation: turned porch posts and staircase newels, sawn ornament on mantels and in eaves, decorative wood shingles in gables, or beaded tongue-and-groove boards on walls and wainscots (Fig. 3.31). The farmhouse at Pine Knot Farm, located between Jonesboro and Lemon Springs, illustrates the range of machine-made ornamentation available to Lee County homebuilders during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The front and rear porches are supported by turned posts of several types, with turned and sawn brackets. The gables are sheathed with sawtooth shingles, and the gable verges, gable vents, and gable-end window hoods are fringed with delicate jig-sawn ornament. Beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing, nailed on both vertically and diagonally, appears in the center passage and above the front parlor mantel, which also features sawn brackets, turned frieze bosses, and turned pilasters. Elaborate ornament was also used in additions to the house, which evolved to its present form between 1888 and 1909 (Figs. 3.32 through 3.35).

Figures 3.32, 3.33, 3.34, 3.35 Pine Knot Farm farmhouse. This remarkable series of photographs portrays the house at various stages of construction, beginning with the original 1888 front section before its first coat of paint. *(caption continued)*



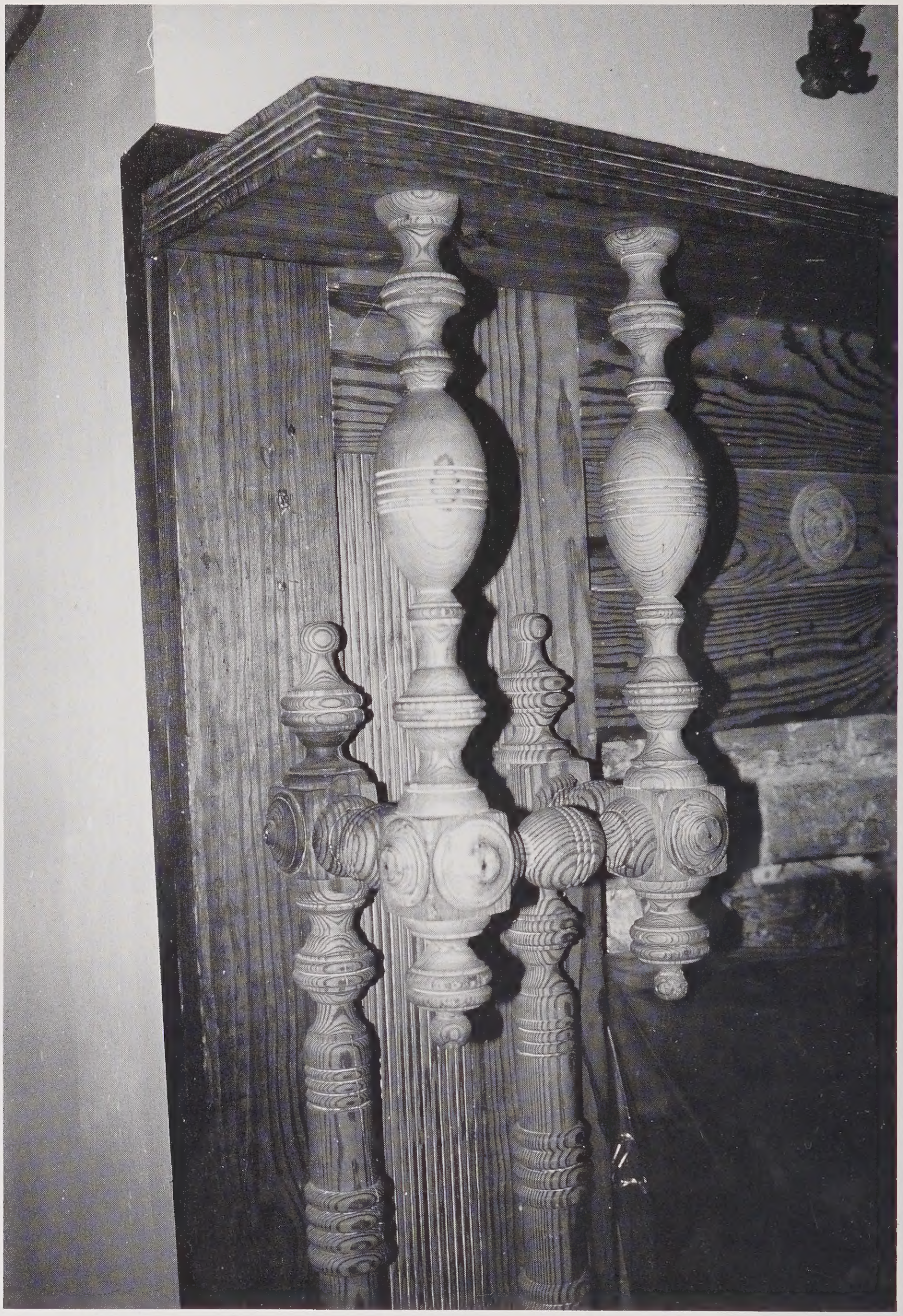
(continued from p. 75) A later view of Pine Knot Farm shows the second chimney under construction and an early decorative paint scheme, and two final views dating to before 1909 show the house with its present hip-and-gable roof. (Courtesy of David Overton and Annie L. Pomeranz)



Mantels often served as focal points for interior decorative schemes. The Sanford Sash & Blind Company produced most locally manufactured mantels, some with distinctive scalloped moldings and incised leaflike ornamentation. Sanford Sash & Blind may also have been the source for several especially elaborate mantels, such as the parlor mantel in a ca. 1900 house at 301 Wilson Avenue in Sanford, which was probably built by the company for the Sanford Cotton Mills (Fig. 3.36). The contemporary Marcelus and Ann Baker House features a spectacular mantel with incised patterns, freestanding spindlework, and a mirrored overmantel in a decorative frame. Mantels that are vernacular interpretations of factory-made pieces appear in a number of Lee County houses. Those in a ca. 1875 house located across Cox Mill Road from the Atlas and Jackie M. Gross House are related to the Gross House mantels (Fig. 3.37). In the Little Pocket Creek area are several houses with vernacular mantels crafted in the early 1900s by farmer and sawmiller Joe J. Tillman (Fig. 3.38). Furniture designed by Tillman employs the same decorative motifs used in his mantels.

Other forms of decorative work appear in period houses and buildings. Some of the finest beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing appears in two houses located between Sanford and Carbonton. The Walter T. and Beulah Gilliam House and the Marcelus and Ann Baker House have front parlors with chevron-pattern wall panels and coved ceilings. The Gilliam House also features a center passage with an unusual barrel-vaulted ceiling formed from plain tongue-and-groove boards. The front doors of the Gilliam and Jesse L. Godfrey houses have stained glass panels, and the bay windows of the Godfrey House and the Kenneth H. Worthy House (also

Figure 3.36
Detail of a mantel in the ca. 1900 house at 301 Wilson Avenue, Sanford



known as the Hickory House) have delicately tinted pink panes. Distinctively shaped louvered vents, like the inverted heart-shaped vents of the Tinney Inn, enliven the rooflines of many buildings. Forms included the ogee-arched or bell-shaped vent in the porch gable of the Wesley and Jane C. McIver House; the multifoil round vent in the porch gable of John D. McIver's town house in Sanford; the star-shaped vent in the porch gable of the Alexander and Caroline M. Wicker House; lancet-arched belfry vents at Buffalo Church; and the peaked belfry vents and seven-sided gable vent at Euphronia Church.

Lee County house painters availed themselves of an expanded palette of new, industrially produced paints. Contrasting colors accented architectural elements and amplified the visual

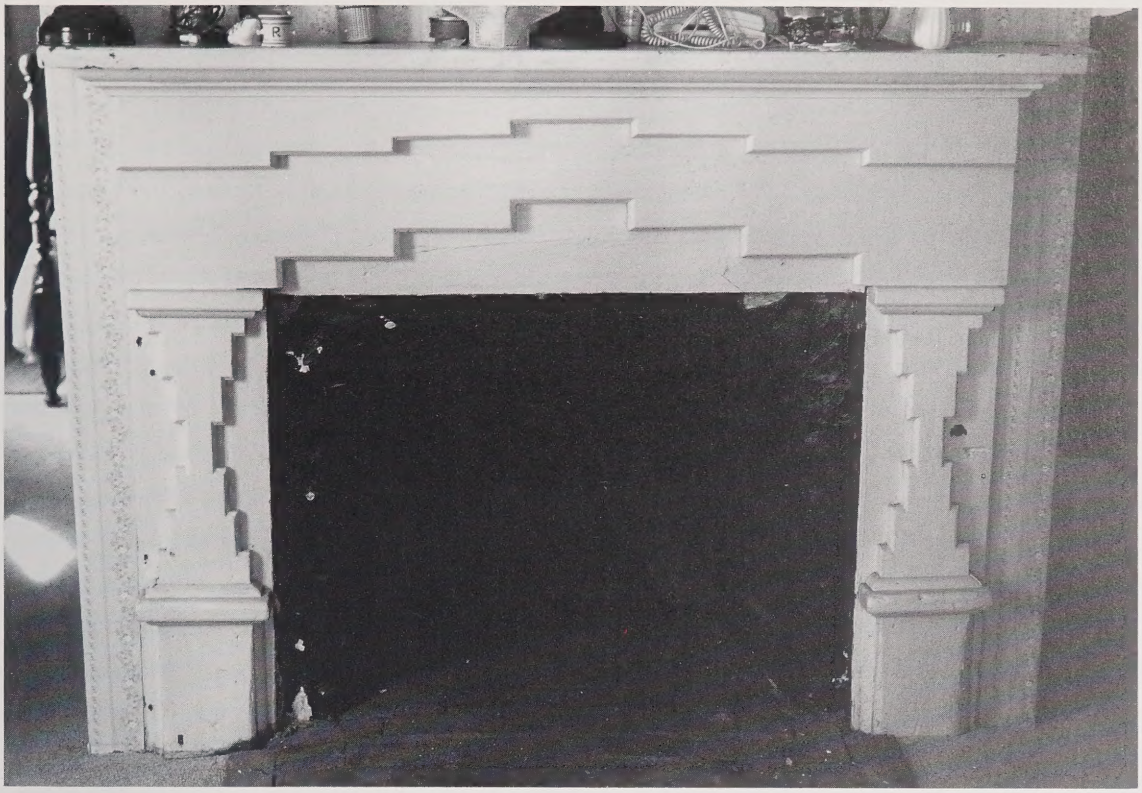


Figure 3.37
Mantel in a ca. 1875 house on Cox Mill Road (SR 1529), Swann's Station vicinity

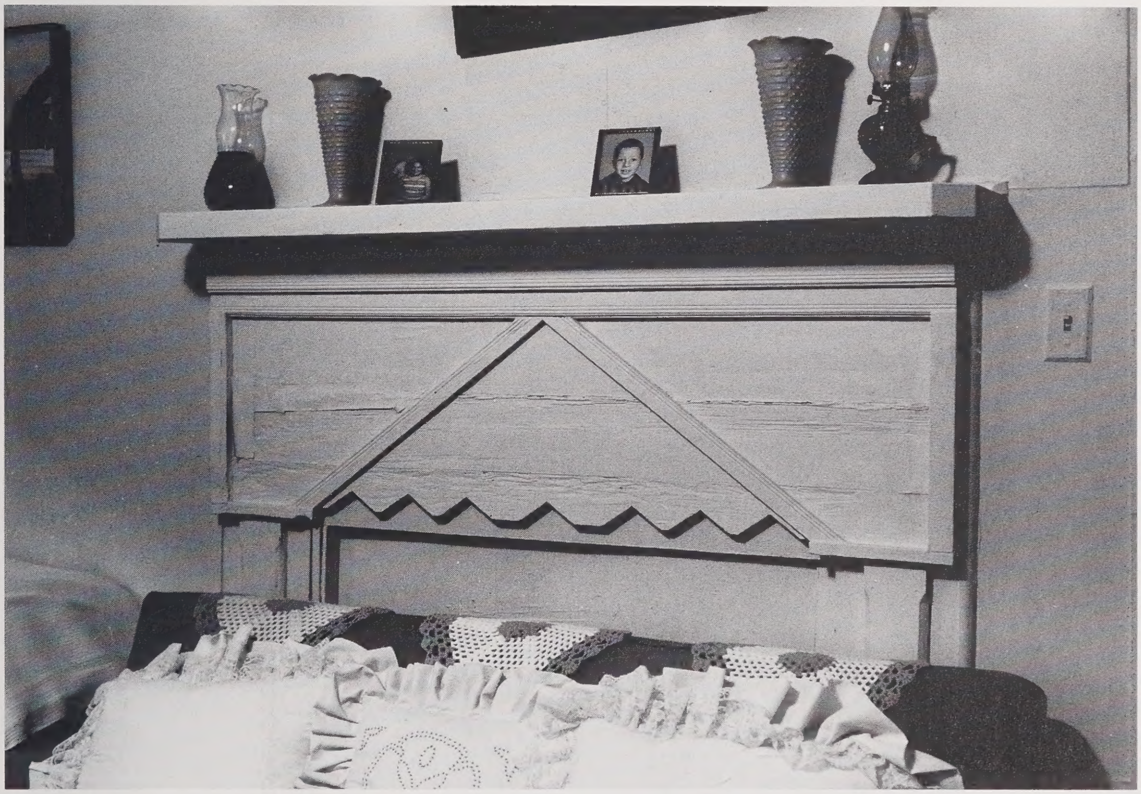


Figure 3.38
Mantel in the Oren Tillman House (ca. 1910) made by Joe J. Tillman, 1505 South Plank Road (SR 1007), Carbonton vicinity

effect of repetitive ornament such as brackets and wood shingle sheathing. The sawtooth wood shingles in the curious flattened gambrel porch roof of the Leslie-Winstead House, located south of Sanford on St. Andrew's Church Road (SR 1146), were once picked out in contrasting colors, as were the various components of the porch posts. The nearby farmhouse at Pine Knot Farm received a similar treatment about 1890. The Burns House, located in the Buckhorn Falls vicinity, originally featured a roof cresting of pressed metal shingles painted in an alternating checkered pattern of green and white. The Burns family also hired an itinerant painter to stencil a frieze on the tongue-and-groove walls of a parlor. This frieze features a running garland of green roses and leaves with gold accents and calls to mind the floral wallpaper borders of the period (Fig. 3.39). Where the original treatments have not been covered over by modern finishes, other decorative painting techniques—graining, marbling, and smoking—are occasionally encountered in houses of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

One of Lee County's architectural paradoxes is the virtual absence of sophisticated brownstone construction, despite the prevalence of brownstone quarrying in the years around 1900. The Endor Iron Furnace and the Western Railroad used brownstone in the mid-1800s, but during the peak years of production, only the 1908 Lee County Courthouse and a handful of commercial buildings in downtown Sanford used brownstone in its dressed form. The stone was used with more frequency in Sanford landscaping. The front yard of the early-twentieth-century John R. Jones House at 402 Hawkins Avenue is bordered by a low brownstone wall punctuated by stone gate posts and short piers capped with pyramidal blocks (Fig. 3.40), and a set of

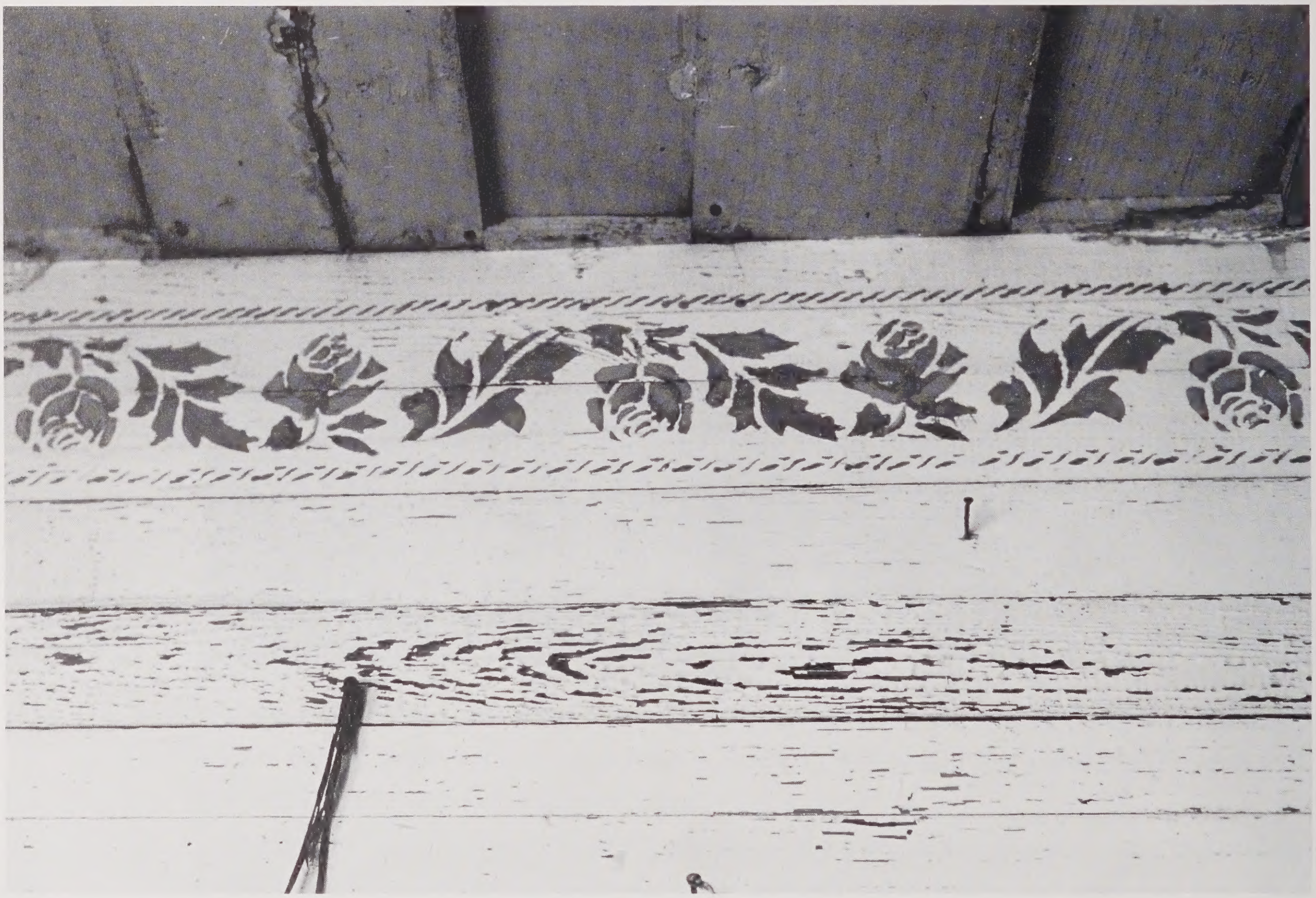


Figure 3.39 Stenciled frieze in the Burns House (ca. 1900), Buckhorn Road (SR 1538), Broadway vicinity

brownstone steps leads up to the house of quarry owner Roscoe E. Carrington at 214 Summit Drive. During a later period, undressed brownstone rubble was used to form walls along the sidewalks in front of the 1924 T. S. Cross House and the 1928 Edward C., Jr., and Ethel S. Heins House in Sanford and around the front yard of the ca. 1875 George W. Gilmore House on Cool Springs Road (SR 1325).

The explosion in building activity during the prosperous decades following the Civil War provided numerous opportunities for builders and other tradesmen. Some builders engaged in construction work as an adjunct to their principal line of business—farming—while others built on a full-time basis. Some advertised in the local papers or in business directories with statewide circulation, while others appear to have relied on word-of-mouth reputation. Together, contractors, carpenters, brickmasons, and house painters produced a remarkable architectural heritage that continues to grace Lee County's towns and countryside.

The leading builder of the period was an entrepreneur who also helped lay the groundwork for the county's economic growth. At the time of his death in 1907, John Winslow Scott, Sr., was credited with the construction of seven stores, a warehouse, twenty-five residences, and forty other buildings in Sanford (Fig. 3.41).[115] Prominent buildings that can be attributed to him include his residence at Lemon Springs (ca. 1880) and the Sanford Cotton Mills (1900), of which he served as president. Scott functioned as a developer or general contractor for these projects, rather than as a hands-on builder. The Sanford Sash & Blind Company, formed by Scott and John B. Makepeace in 1882, became Scott's vehicle for construction activity by the late 1880s. In May 1897, the company completed four "cottages" in Sanford, and in October of that year, it began construction on the H. Joseph Heilig House, located at 504 North East Street in Raleigh's Oakwood neighborhood.[116]

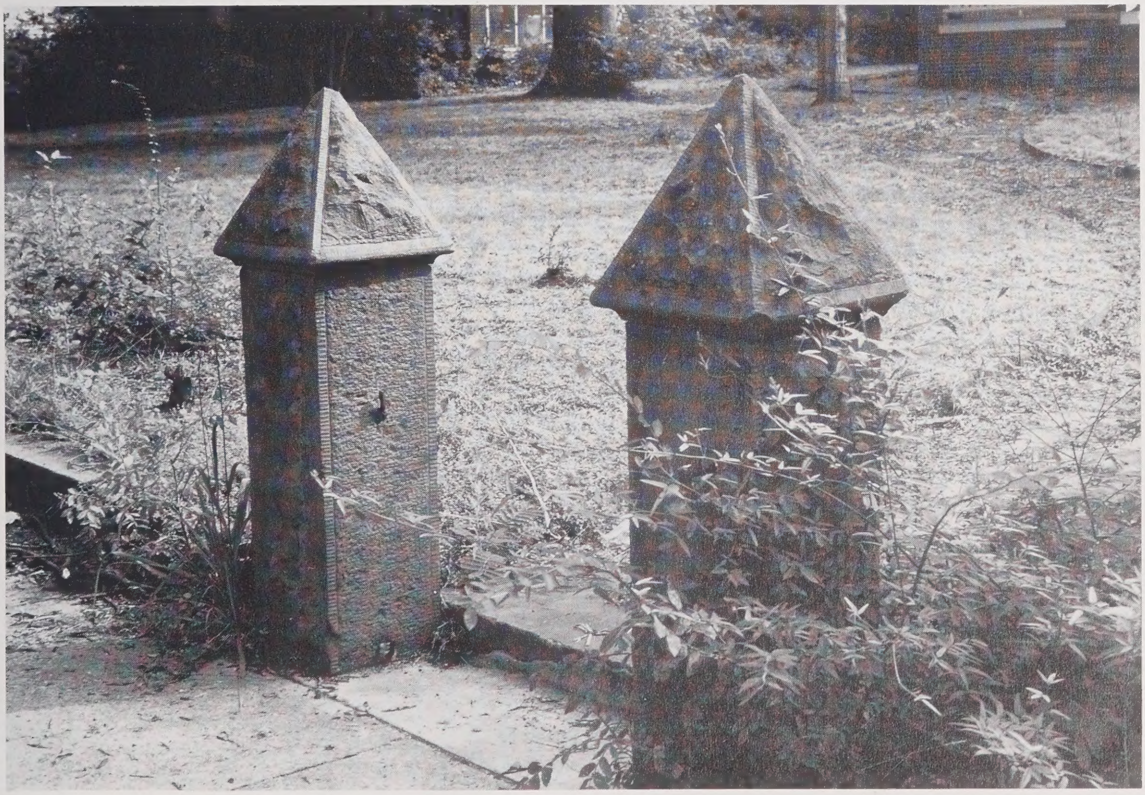


Figure 3.40
Brownstone gateposts, John R. Jones House (ca. 1900), 402 Hawkins Avenue, Sanford

The Sanford Sash & Blind Company also sold building materials from an outlet store at its plant in Sanford. Railroad engineer Leonidas C. Jones bought doors, sash, and blinds at the plant for an 1889 addition to his house in Jonesboro, and in 1898, Carbonton-area farmer Walter T. Gilliam shopped there for materials and building components that included two round "ventilators" and a front door with a stained glass window. (The Jones House stood at 2616 Watson Avenue in Jonesboro until it was demolished in the mid-twentieth century; the Walter T. and Beulah Gilliam House stands at 5318 Carbonton Road [NC 42] near Carbonton.)[117] Carpenters from as far away as Durham came in wagon and team to stock up on window sash, doors, moldings, and other building components at Sanford Sash & Blind.[118]

African-Americans figured prominently among the county's commercial brickmakers and brickmasons of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Fig. 3.42). Contractor David W. Womack operated a clay pit and brick plant south of Pearl Street in Sanford in the late 1880s, providing the bricks for the Scott Building, Sanford's first brick commercial block.[119] Businessman John A. Womack may have been involved in his brother David's enterprise, which was later owned by Jerry Ragland and relocated to the north corner of Seventh Street and Hickory Avenue in eastern Sanford.[120] Another black brickmaker from later years was Dan Goldston, who worked with contractor A. Lincoln Boykin on a number of projects. Fletcher and Houston Goldston, the Rev. G. M. Hooker, C. Hooker, and John Monroe may have worked with Goldston.[121]

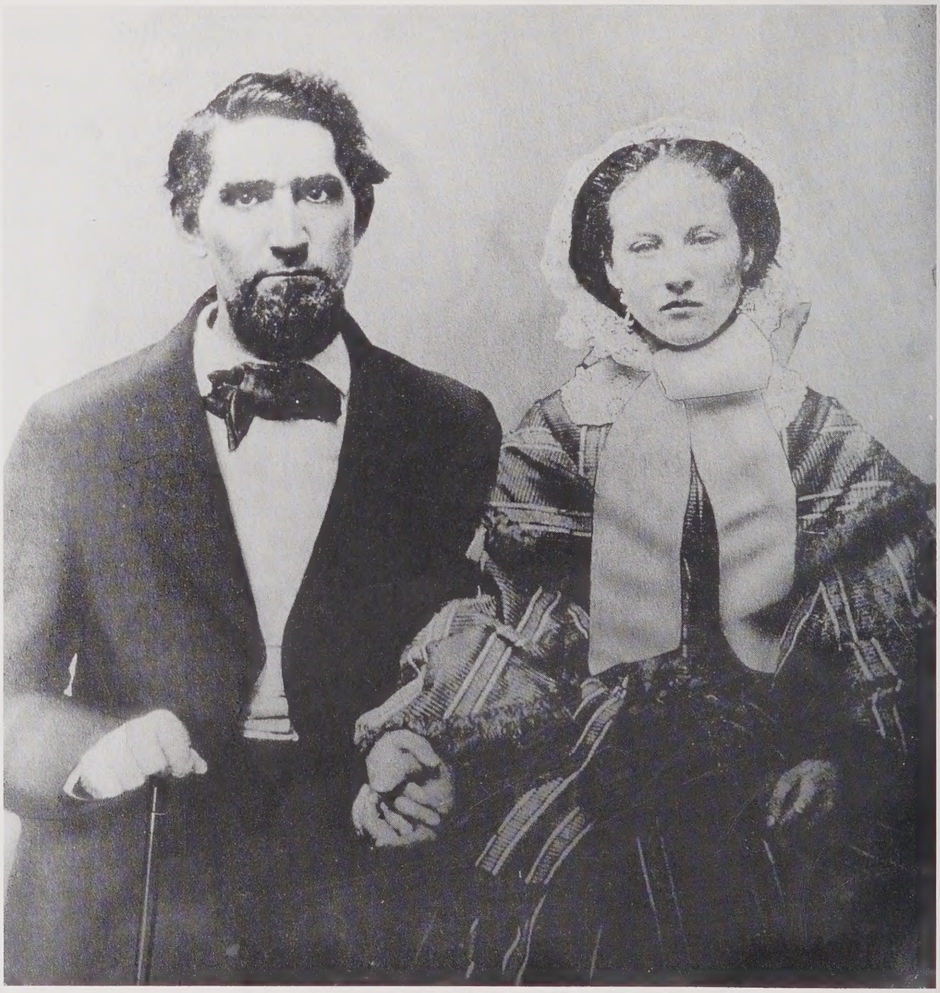


Figure 3.41
Mid-nineteenth-century photo of John W., Sr., and Kate M. Scott

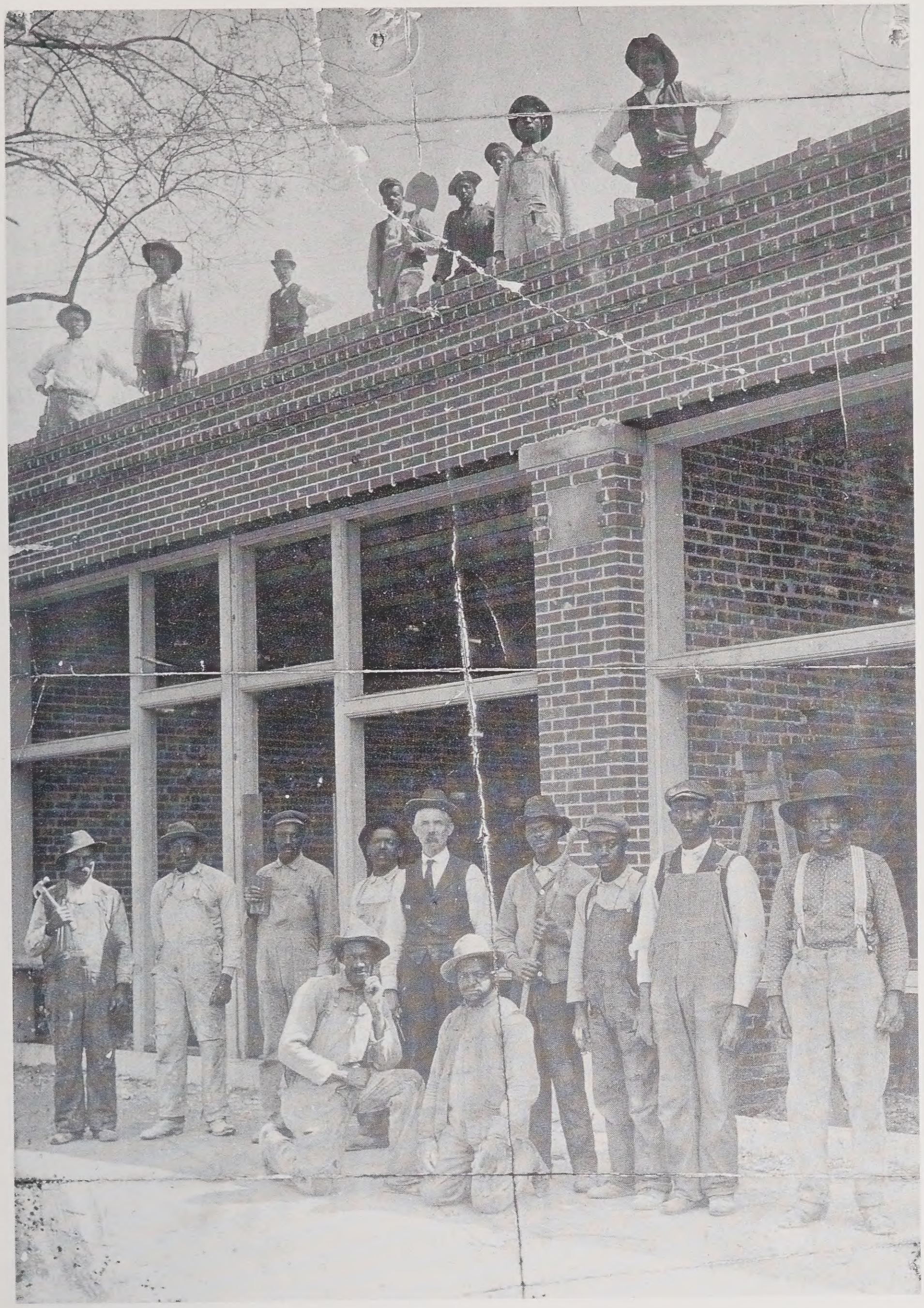


Figure 3.42 A Sanford construction crew, early twentieth century. The crew may be building a structure (no longer extant) at the Moffitt Iron Works, Market Street and Maple Avenue, Sanford. (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

In the Buckhorn Falls vicinity, Will Thomas built brick flues and foundations for his neighbors at the turn of the twentieth century, and Mike Atkins did likewise in the Cumnock area.[122]

Prominent builders and country carpenters alike were called upon to construct larger and more varied building types during the decades around 1900. Industrial growth in Sanford and Jonesboro demanded the construction of capacious factory buildings. The county's largest concentration of historic industrial buildings survives on the east side of the railroad tracks in downtown Sanford. The ca. 1905 Moffitt Iron Works and the 1915 Seaboard Milling Company are representative of the district's substantial, multistory brick buildings, which feature corbeled parapets, segmental-arched door and window openings, and traces of billboard-sized painted signage. The industrial growth that centered on Market, Maple, and Sycamore streets inspired residential development on adjoining blocks. Soon the rambling Victorian homes of industrialists lined South Third Street, and more modest one-story frame cottages filled the 250 lots of "Arlington Heights," the name once given to the residential area now known as East Sanford.[123] Jonesboro also developed an industrial quarter, with a planing mill, a sash and blind factory, and other manufacturing plants constructed along the railroad tracks that bisect the downtown, but few vestiges of Jonesboro's industrial heritage survive.

The vigorous commercial activity of the period led to the construction of numerous downtown emporiums and country stores. The latter existed in small numbers by the mid-nineteenth century; one, the ca. 1855 Absalom Kelly Store near Broadway, is typical of the geographically scattered, domestically scaled frame structures where merchants sold coffee, sugar, and other staples to an otherwise self-sufficient rural populace. Architectural innovation intensified after the war, as businessmen competed to erect the largest, best-located, most eye-catching store buildings in the county's rapidly growing towns. The Weatherspoon Building, erected in 1897 across Charlotte Avenue from the Sanford passenger depot, perfected the strategy: brightly painted architectural embellishments and signage captured the attention of shoppers, and large display windows showcased the wondrous range of factory-made merchandise contained within (Fig. 3.43). The new commercial buildings created an exciting climate of consumerism on Sanford's Chatham and Moore streets and Jonesboro's Main Street.

In the countryside, stores tended to be smaller, without the architectural extravagance of their downtown cousins. Some commercially inclined farmers opened commissaries where they sold a limited range of goods to their tenants and immediate neighbors. Patrick Burns, a farmer in the hill country near Buckhorn Falls, operated a commissary in front of his residence. In form the tiny Burns commissary is houselike, with its entry on its nongable elevation—a configuration shared by the county's earliest country stores. By the end of the nineteenth century, farmers and village merchants switched to the gable-entry form that had become standard elsewhere in the South. The typical country store featured a front porch—the preferred forum of country orators—a sales room lined with counters and shelves, and sometimes a rear counting room or a partitioned-off cubicle used as a post office (Fig. 3.44).

Rural churches also adopted the gable-entry form, already in force by the 1860s and 1870s, when the county's oldest surviving churches were built. Some churches were models of simplicity—Memphis Methodist Church, apparently built in the 1870s, entirely lacks exterior ornamentation—but most of the churches of the period display at least a modicum of stylishness, usually an entry tower and belfry or Gothic Revival touches such as lancet-arched windows. This was particularly true in the towns, where congregations engaged in a game of architectural one-upsmanship that mirrored what was occurring in the business districts. (Many church leaders were, of course, also business leaders.) During the early twentieth century, congregations such as Sanford's First Presbyterian and First Baptist replaced their outmoded frame churches with much larger and more refined brick buildings, demonstrating to all their collective rise in status.

Historic photographs suggest that Lee County's late-nineteenth-century private academies generally featured the gable-entry form characteristic of most rural churches—not unexpectedly, since most academies were sponsored by churches, and some, such as Pocket Academy, were used by newly formed congregations until church buildings could be erected. Two Lee

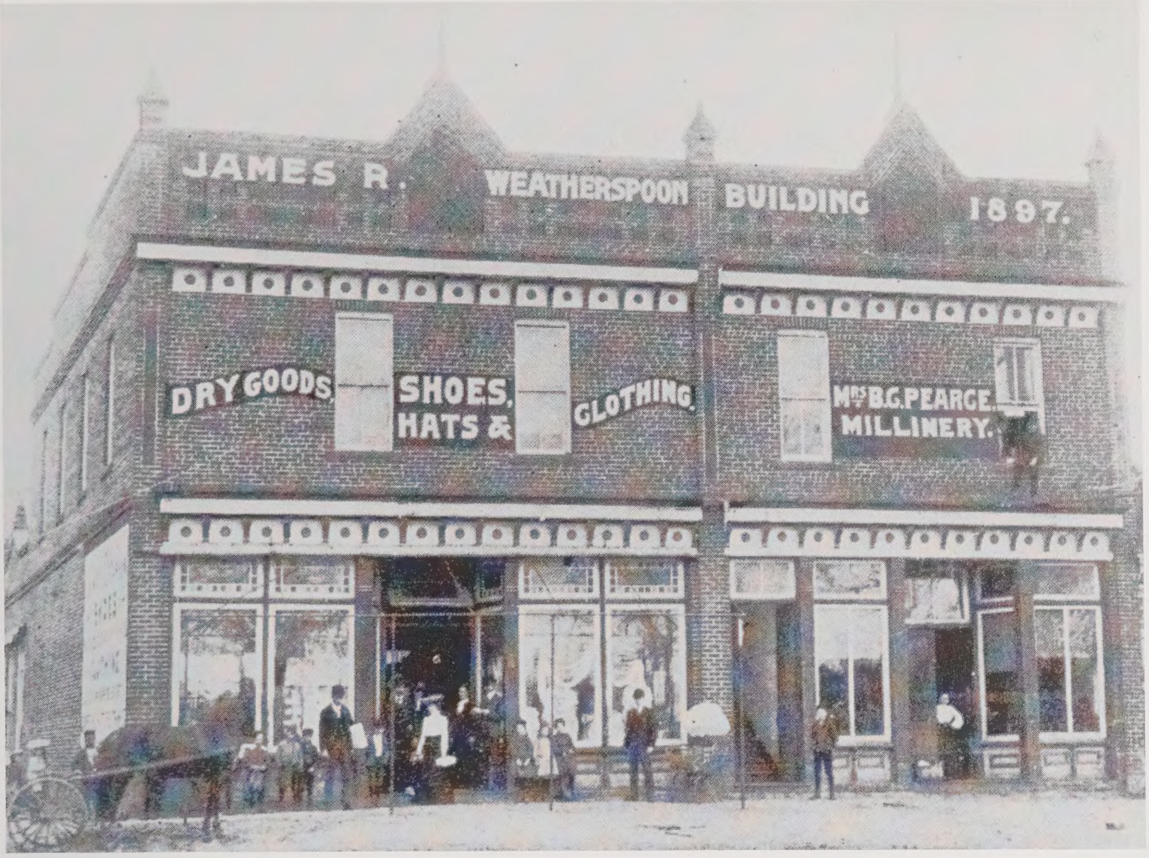
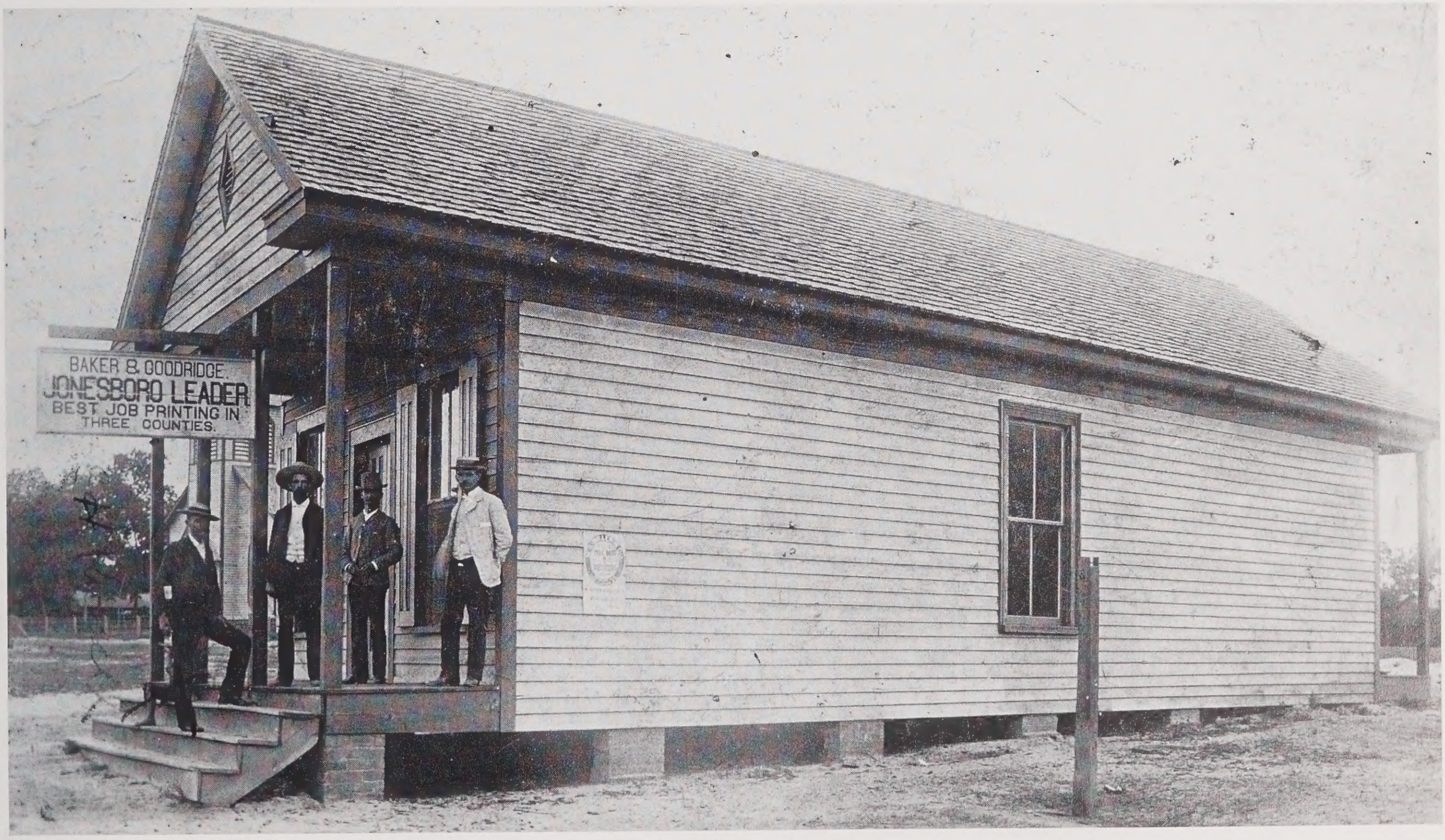

JAMES R. WEATHERSPOON BUILDING 1897.
DRY GOODS
SHOES, HATS &
CLOTHING
MRS B.G.PEARCE. MILLINERY.

Figure 3.43 Weatherspoon Building (1897; demolished), photo ca. 1903

Figure 3.44 Jonesboro Leader Building (ca. 1890; demolished). Although located in the town of Jonesboro, this building is typical of the country stores of the period. (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)



County academies—Pocket Academy west of Sanford and the James Maske Academy in Lemon Springs—stood at the center of small campuses that included dwellings for school personnel and dormitories for students. Near the Pocket Academy stood a house used as a dormitory for female boarders and as a dwelling for the matron who supervised the girls; male boarders lodged in as many as four "cabins"—simple, two-room frame dwellings—scattered in the vicinity. The James Maske Academy (known after 1901 as the Caldwell School) featured a main classroom building, a boarding house and principal's residence, and several cottages "used by students who wish to club."[124] The gender-based segregation of living arrangements at the two academies, and the apparent freer rein given to the male students in their bachelor flats, appear to have been hallmarks of other rural academies in central North Carolina.[125]

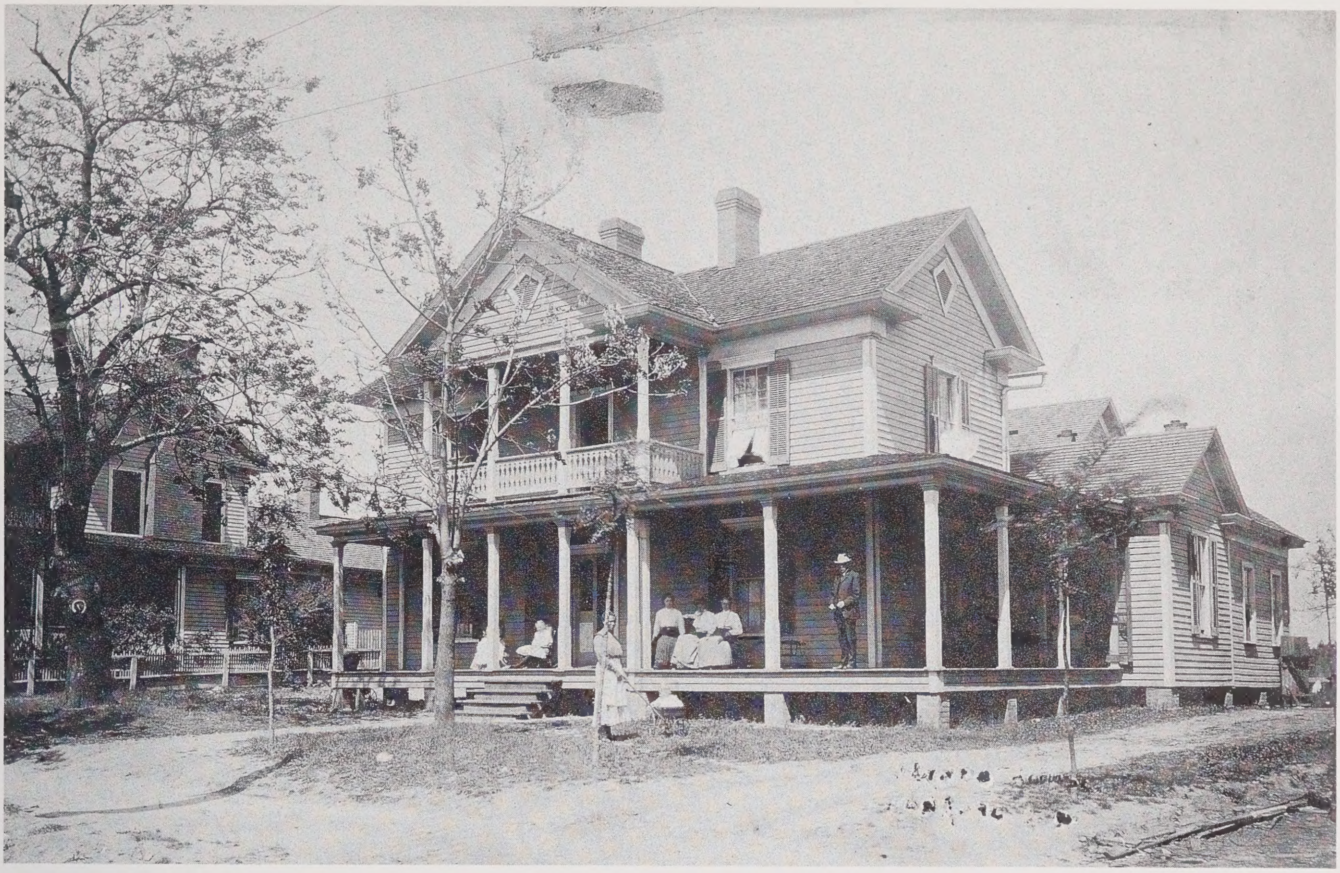
The period around 1900 also experienced a broadening of the range of house types available to homebuilders. Prosperous farmers and merchants continued to prefer the two-story one-room-deep house type established as the norm during the late antebellum period. This type—sometimes referred to as the I-house form—usually featured a center-passage plan, which optimized circulation, ventilation, and privacy. Rear ells and other extensions augmented the house type's functionality, and wraparound porches and two-story front porticos added to its apparent size in addition to providing comfortable summer living space (Fig. 3.45). Homebuilders in town and rural contexts built the two-story one-room-deep house type through World War I.

Another common form was the one-story two-room-deep house. In Jonesboro, a favorite version of the type took a characteristic roof form with a hipped central section and gabled front and side projections (Fig. 3.46). The prolific Jonesboro carpenter team of James and Napoleon McBryde may have built some of these houses, as did builder Duncan Buie, whose 1912 house in Lemon Springs shares the form.

But by far the most numerous house type of the period was also the smallest and cheapest: the one-story one-room-deep house. Although small in scale, the house could be a source of pride; embellished with porches, bay windows, and milled ornamentation, it represented the form of choice for propertied blue-collar workers and small farmers. Dozens of simpler versions were constructed in the mill village established for operatives of the Sanford Cotton Mills, and many more were built for tenant farmers (Fig. 3.47). Over five hundred of these simple one-story one-room-deep houses survive in the county, probably half their former number.

In the early twentieth century, small dwellings known as shotgun houses appeared in low-income Sanford neighborhoods. The type is characterized by two or more rooms arranged one in front of the other, resulting in a linear form likened to the barrel of a shotgun. A handful survive on Washington Avenue and Waddell Street, near where the Sanford Sash & Blind plant once stood, but shotguns formerly existed throughout the town (Fig. 3.48). A possibly related form, the so-called gable-fronted bungalow, gained popularity in the 1920s just as the last shotguns were built locally, and the compact bungalows were built in great numbers in urban and rural areas through the 1940s. Today over five hundred gable-fronted bungalows stand in the county.

Lee County farmhouses of all types stood at the center of extensive domestic complexes. Food processing and storage, household washing, crafts and repair work, and often even the cooking took place in specialized outbuildings. Detached kitchens kept heat, odor, and grime away from the main house, in addition to lessening the danger of an accidental kitchen fire spreading to the house. Near the kitchen stood the meat house or smokehouse, so called depending on whether



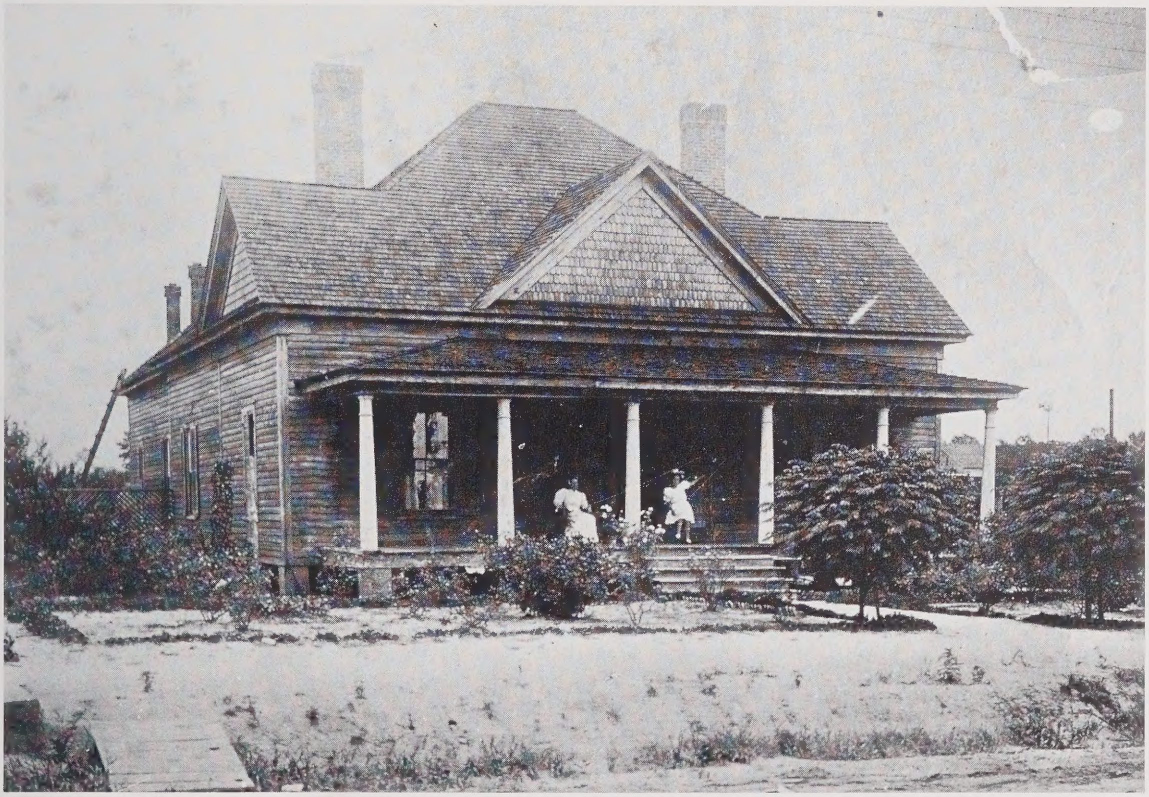


Figure 3.45
Two-story one-room-deep house (ca. 1900) built at an unknown location in Sanford

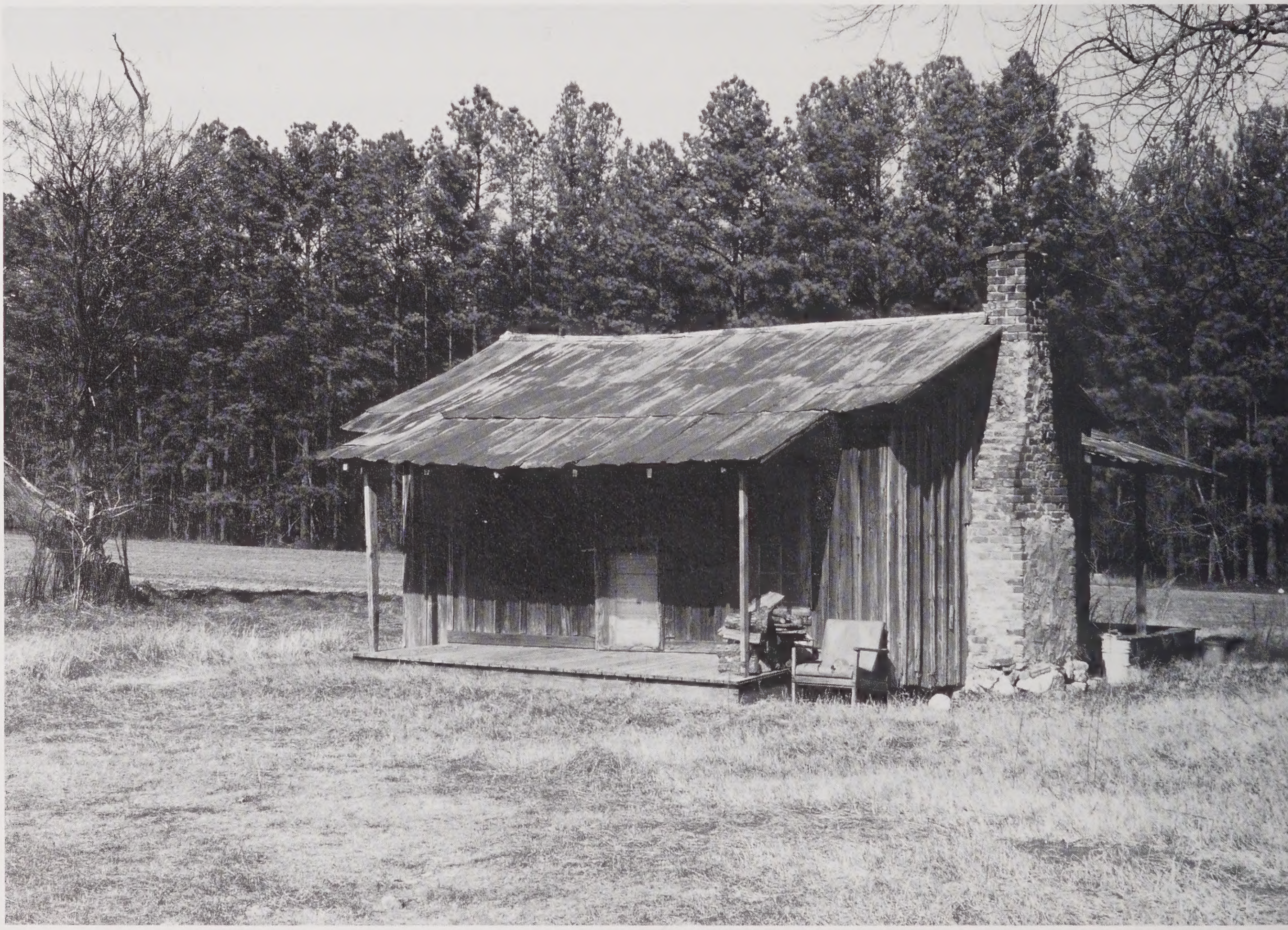
Figure 3.46
Gerald House (ca. 1900), Lee Avenue, Jonesboro

the farm family used the salt or smoke method of curing its pork. The earliest meat houses were log, frame, or—as at the John D. McIver Farm in Sanford—stone; by the mid-twentieth century, county residents had substituted brick tile or concrete block for traditional materials.

An outstanding collection of domestic outbuildings survives at Pine Knot Farm, assembled by the innovation-minded William Isaac and Susannah Hunt Brooks beginning in 1888 (Fig. 3.49). Several steps from the back porch of the Brooks farmhouse stands a brick "milk house" or dairy, used by the family as a sort of outdoor pantry. A board-and-batten meat house and a well shelter with a pyramidal roof also figured in the preparation of food. Next to the meat house stands the loom house where Susannah Brooks wove coverlets and other items. Located off a side porch is a latticed wash shed with a brick hearth for boiling the laundry. At the back of the group stands a carbide plant where gas was generated and piped into the house for lighting. Brick walkways connect outbuilding to outbuilding and outbuilding to house. Complexes like that at Pine Knot Farm were rendered obsolete by rural electrification during the mid-twentieth century; household chores and functions were absorbed into the home, performed more conveniently by modern appliances such as washing machines and freezers.

Susannah Brooks beautified her workaday yard with rose arbors and flower beds. Other Lee County farmwives too devoted themselves to creating extensive gardens. A well-preserved

Figure 3.47
Tenant house (ca. 1930) located on the Nicholson Farm, 3801 Nicholson Road (SR 1166), Swann's Station vicinity



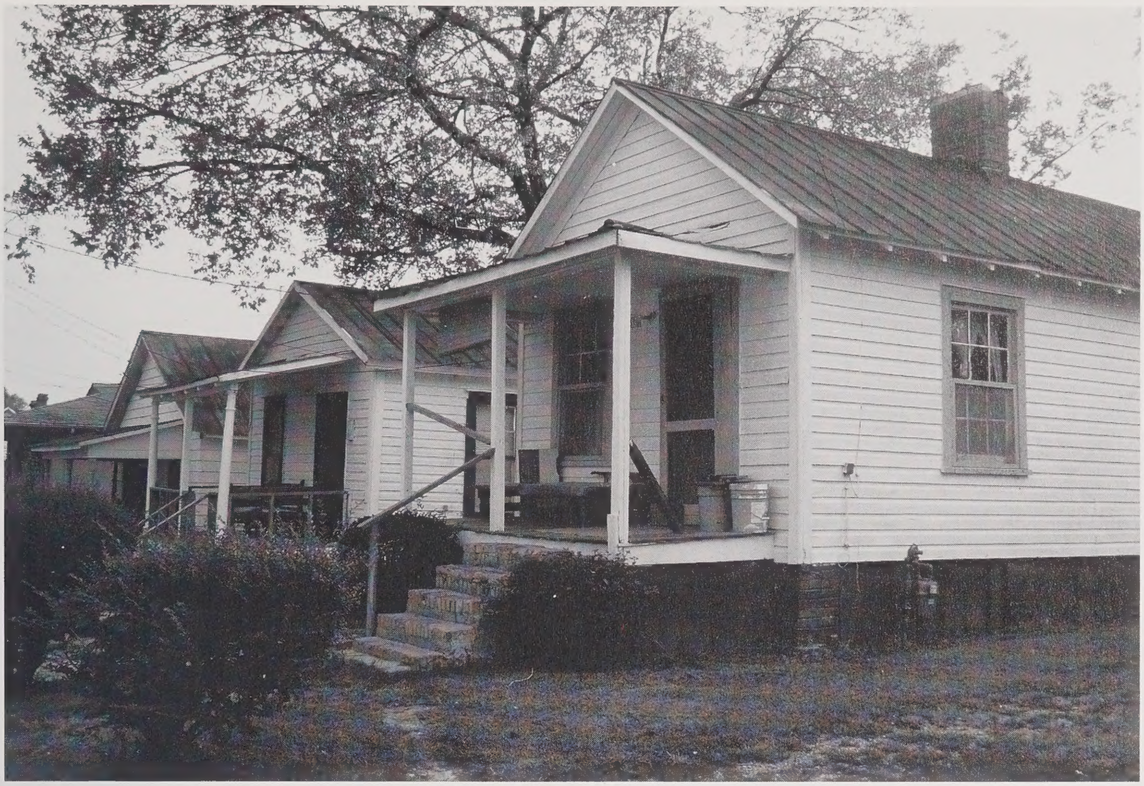
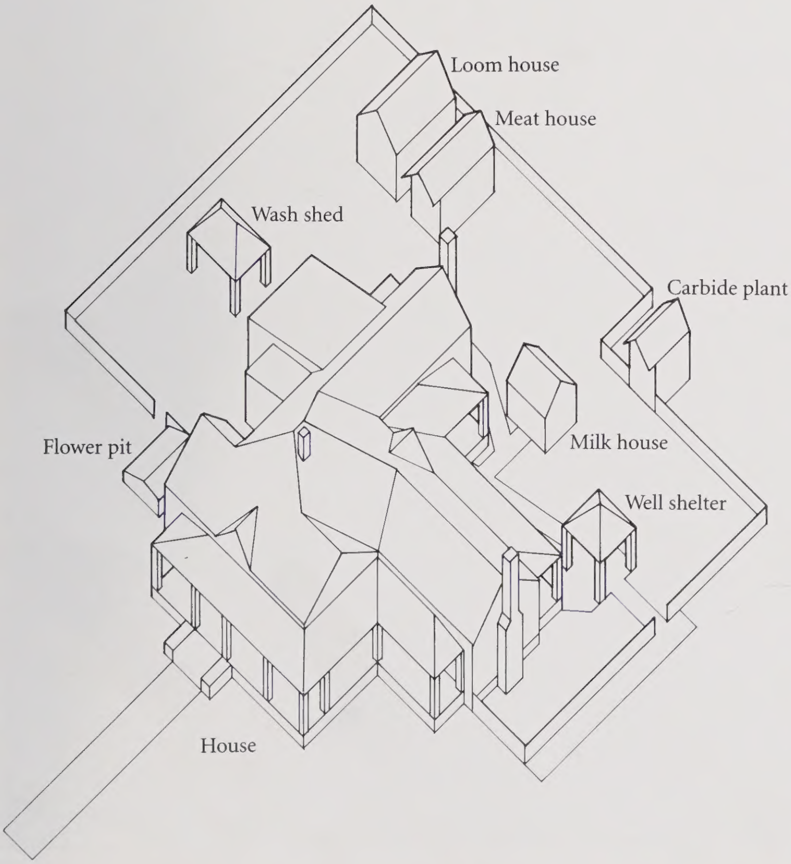


Figure 3.48 Shotgun houses (early twentieth century) on Washington Avenue, Sanford

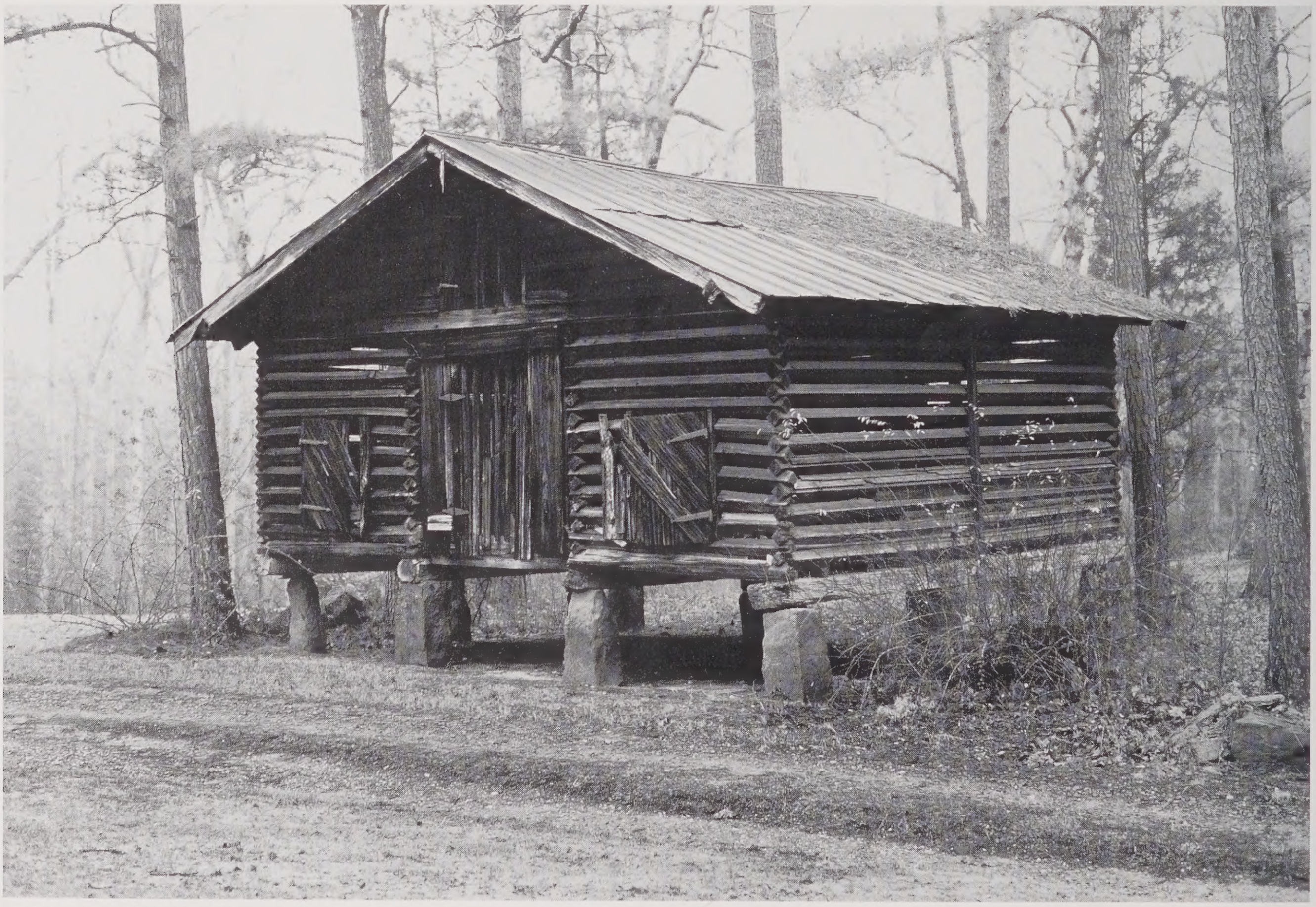
Figure 3.49 Isometric diagram showing the main house and domestic outbuildings at Pine Knot Farm



early-twentieth-century planting scheme survives at the farm of J. P. and Mary Eliza Gilliam on Gilliam Road (SR 1320) in the sparsely populated Little Pocket Creek section of the county. During the first decade of the twentieth century, Mary Eliza Gilliam laid out a front garden with walkways dividing beds of hyacinths, jonquils, hardy phlox, and chrysanthemums; herbs such as pennyroyal, bloodroot, and sage; and larger plantings such as euonymous and cape jasmine (gardenia). Gilliam swapped plants with her neighbors and brought bulbs from her parents' farm in Chatham County; other home gardeners purchased plants from nurseries in Raleigh and Greensboro or from M. J. McPhail's greenhouse, which opened in 1906 between Sanford and Jonesboro and within a few years became the county's principal source of bulbs, shrubs, and cut flowers.[126]

Crucial to the operation of the county's farms were its farm buildings, which by 1900 had developed a range of forms. Documented farm buildings from the mid-nineteenth century and earlier are extremely rare, making an evolutionary description of local farm building typology difficult. One type that did span the decades was the corncrib, generally a small, well-ventilated building for storing the county's dietary staple. Several nineteenth-century log examples survive, most notably the spectacular double-pen corncrib on the John D. McIver Farm in Sanford, constructed with the precision of a Japanese shrine (Fig. 3.50). Later corncribs substituted circular-sawn slats for unchinked logs, but they preserved the narrow form of earlier examples. At the upper end of the size range is the corncrib/wagon shelter at the Palmer property on

Figure 3.50
John D. McIver Farm corncrib (ca. 1855), 2007 Windmill Drive, Sanford



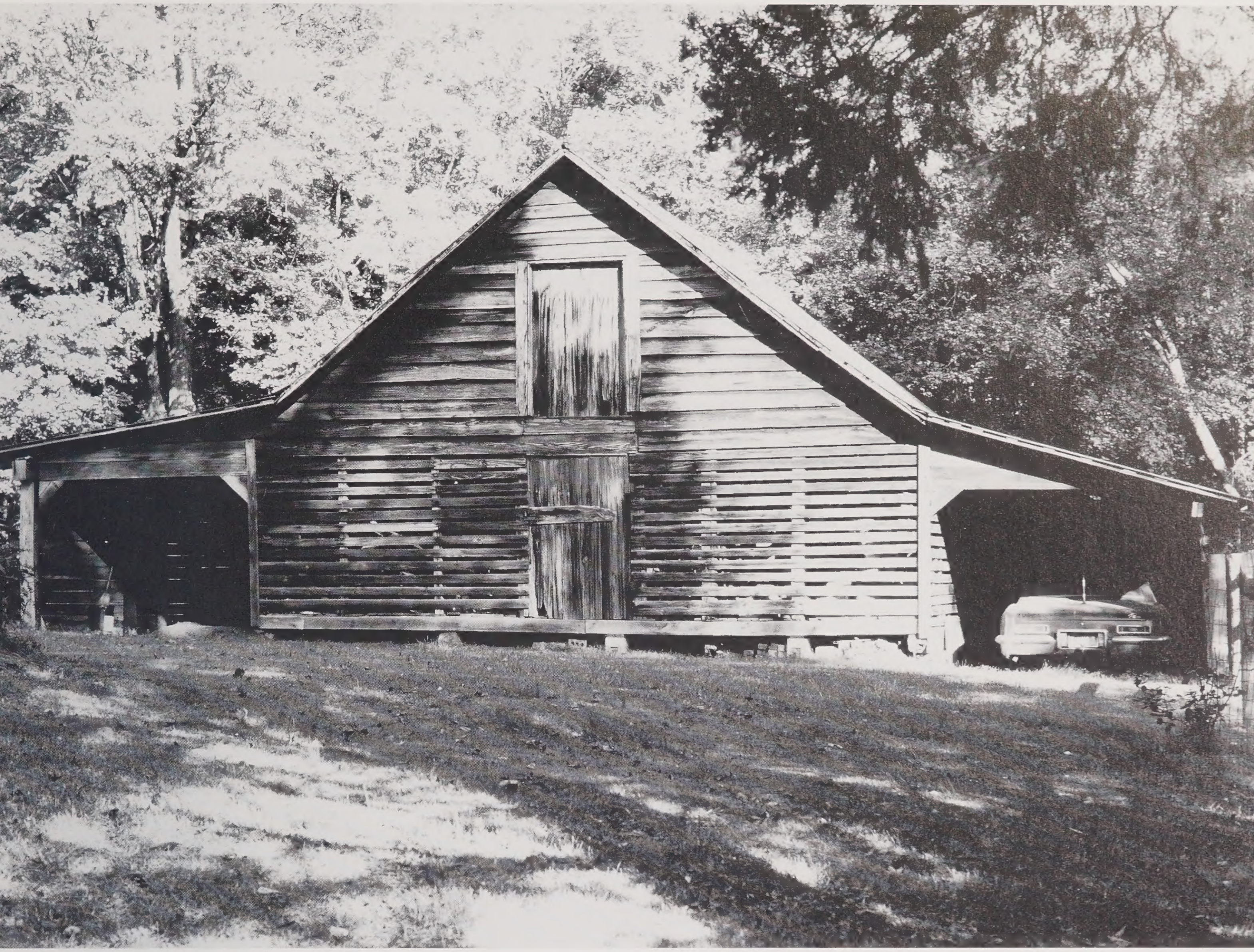


Figure 3.51 Palmer Farm corncrib (late nineteenth century), 800 North Plank Road (SR 1007), Carbonton vicinity

North Plank Road (SR 1007), which testifies to the volume of agricultural production on that Deep River farm (Fig. 3.51).

Barns for the sheltering of livestock and storage of feed existed from the beginning of settlement; by 1900 they had developed a conventional form, with animal stalls below and haymows above (Fig. 3.52). Among the largest barns of the period are the wagon shelters located on farms in the Broadway area belonging to members of the Thomas family. These buildings feature wide lengthwise corridors for the storage and maneuvering of farm equipment, with workrooms and other compartments on either side. The Thomas farms figure among the largest agricultural complexes to survive from the early twentieth century, and the formal layout of one of them, the Berke Thomas Farm, contrasts with the functional but straggling appearance of most surviving farm complexes, few of which feature their full complement of early buildings. Notably absent to a visitor of Lee County farms during the first decade of the twentieth century would have been the curing barns and pack houses associated with tobacco cultivation, for the crop was practically nonexistent until the 1910s.

Lee County's cemeteries, like its buildings, reflected the new social and economic realities of the period following the Civil War. Local craftsmen continued to make headstones and wooden grave markers, and French stonecutters associated with the Sanford brownstone quarries carved several of the county's finest monuments, but grave monuments were increasingly shipped in over the rails from outside suppliers. Raleigh came to replace Fayetteville as the principal outside source—a direct consequence of the construction of the Raleigh & Augusta line in the 1870s. By the middle of the twentieth century, Lee County's grave art was virtually indistinguishable from that in other parts of the country.

Only sketchy information exists on the burial practices of the county's African-Americans for the period before emancipation. Uninscribed headstones and fieldstones found within or beside early white cemeteries may indicate the graves of black slaves. The earliest identified African-American cemetery is the Goins Cemetery, associated with a free mulatto family that lived in the Little Pocket Creek area from the antebellum period into the twentieth century.

After the Civil War, African-Americans established family and church cemeteries and thereby overcame the anonymity of antebellum burial practices. The largest nineteenth-century black cemeteries are associated with early black congregations. These include the cemeteries at Green Grove A.M.E. Zion Church, located south of Lemon Springs; Murchison Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church, located in Murchisontown; and Tempting Congregational Church, located between Sanford and Carbonton. The Green Grove cemetery contains many notable monuments, including the marble headstones of the prominent Boykin family of Cameron and Sanford, and

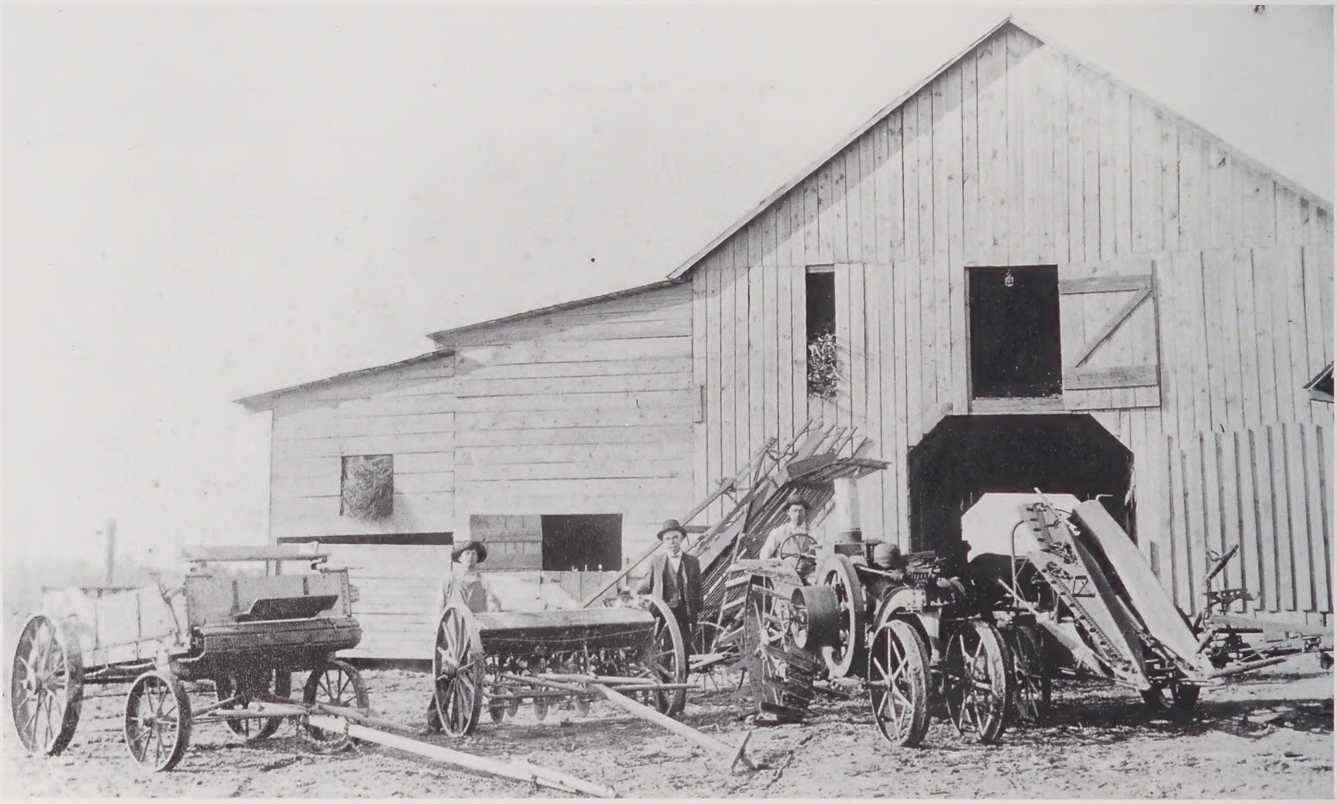


Figure 3.52
A typical Lee County hay and machinery barn of the early twentieth century, formerly located on Harkey Road in Jonesboro

a curious wooden grave marker with wavy sides (Fig. 3.53). The Goins and Tempting Church cemeteries contain cast concrete headstones that were probably made by local farmer Mont Campbell. These monuments date to the first third of the twentieth century and have arched tops with recessed panels bearing ornamentation—lily of the valley is a common motif—and typewriter-like inscriptions (Fig. 3.54).

The popularity of George Lauder's Fayetteville-made monuments waned among the county's elite after the Civil War, replaced by the work of monument makers based in Raleigh. This shift in supply networks reflects the economic integration of the area with Raleigh after the establishment of rail connections. Notable monuments of Raleigh manufacture appear in the Harrington Cemetery, located near the vanished community of Villanow in the southwest quadrant of the county. Former Cameron mayor James A. Harrington commissioned Raleigh's I. W. Durham

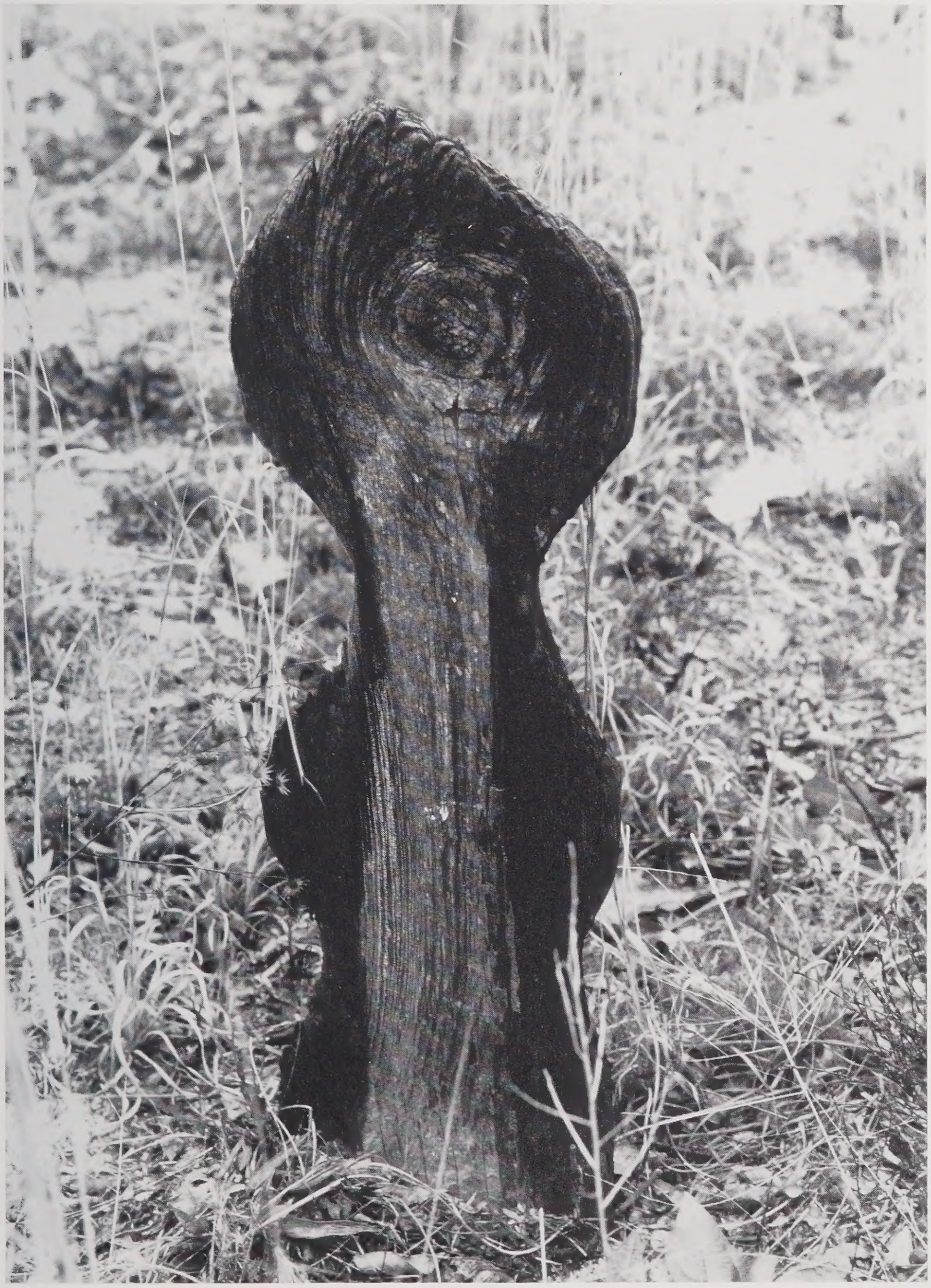


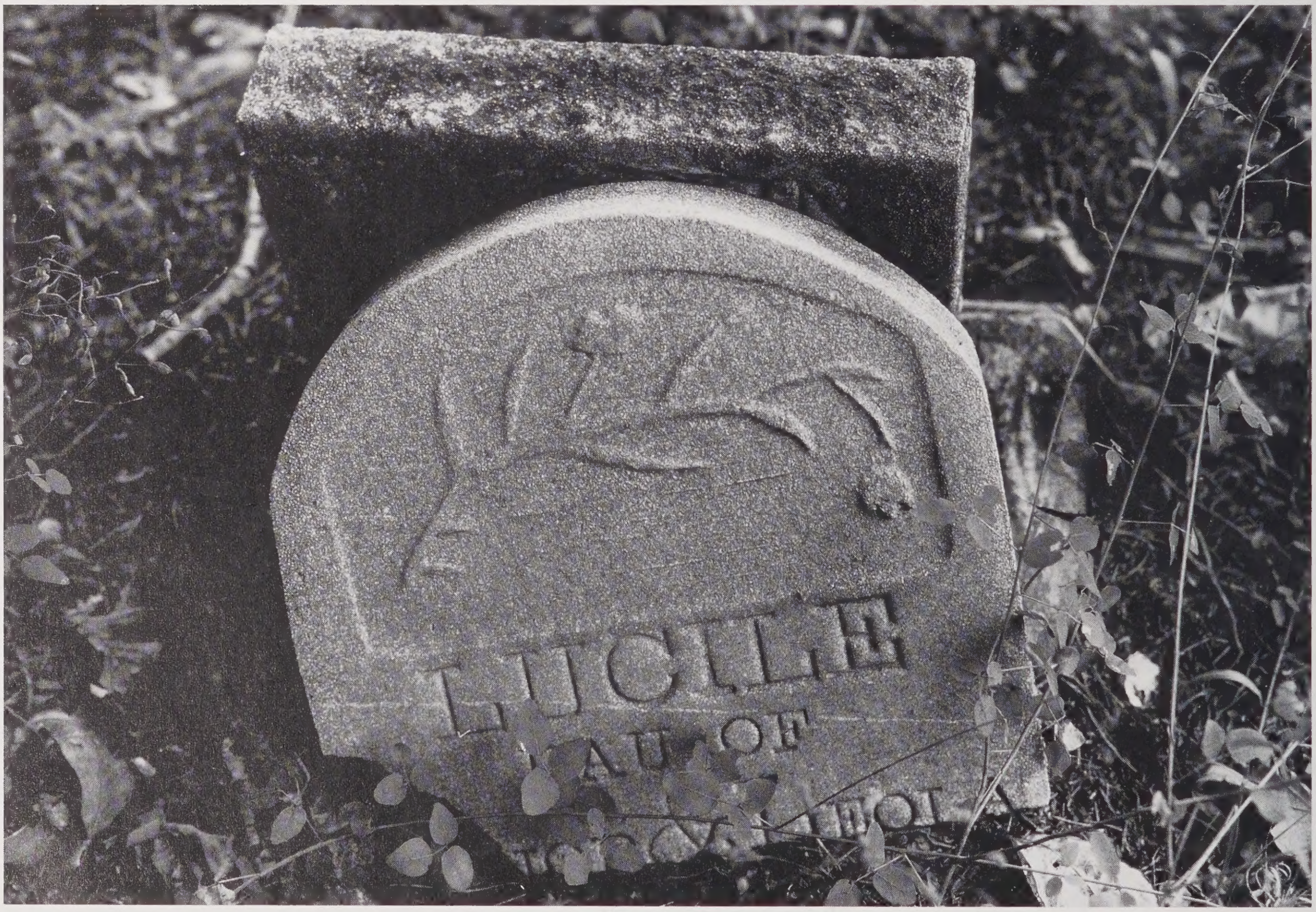
Figure 3.53 Uninscribed wood grave marker in the Green Grove A.M.E. Zion Church cemetery, 5418 County Line Road (SR 1172), Lemon Springs vicinity. Charring on the marker testifies to the wildfires that regularly swept through southern Lee County in the past.

works to produce a Gothic marble headstone for the grave of his young wife Kate, who died in 1877. Harrington's own monument was carved in 1891 by C. A. Goodwin of Raleigh.

Stylish monuments employing conventional forms and decorative motifs were also produced locally during the period. Sanford's George A. Davis carved marble markers, including one for W. D. Dowd (1805–77), a simple, Gothic-inspired lancet headstone located in the cemetery of Cool Springs Baptist Church (Fig. 3.55). In 1888, Davis advertised his "Monuments and Cradle and Box Tombs, Plain and Fancy Head Stones," carved in both marble and brownstone.[127] In the 1890s, the Davis monument works were located at the south corner of the intersection of Carthage and Steele streets, where John F. Gonella later carved brownstone monuments and architectural ornament.[128]

French stonecutters associated with the brownstone quarries produced some of the county's finest grave art at the turn of the twentieth century. The most impressive monuments are located in the cemetery of Buffalo Presbyterian Church and were carved primarily for the Frenchmen and their family members. The Gonella monument, carved by John F. Gonella (1859–1943) for himself and for his wife, Minnie Rackle Gonella (1869–1906), is an outstanding example of the stonecutter's art. The tall monument stands on a rough base and features moldings, incised arabesques, and a crescent-shaped bas-relief panel containing a five-pointed star (Fig. 3.56). In the cemetery of Jones Chapel United Methodist Church on Deep River Road (SR 1466) is

Figure 3.54 Fragmentary cast-concrete marker in the Tempting Congregational Church cemetery, 208 Tempting Church Road (SR 1322), Sanford vicinity; possibly the work of Mont Campbell



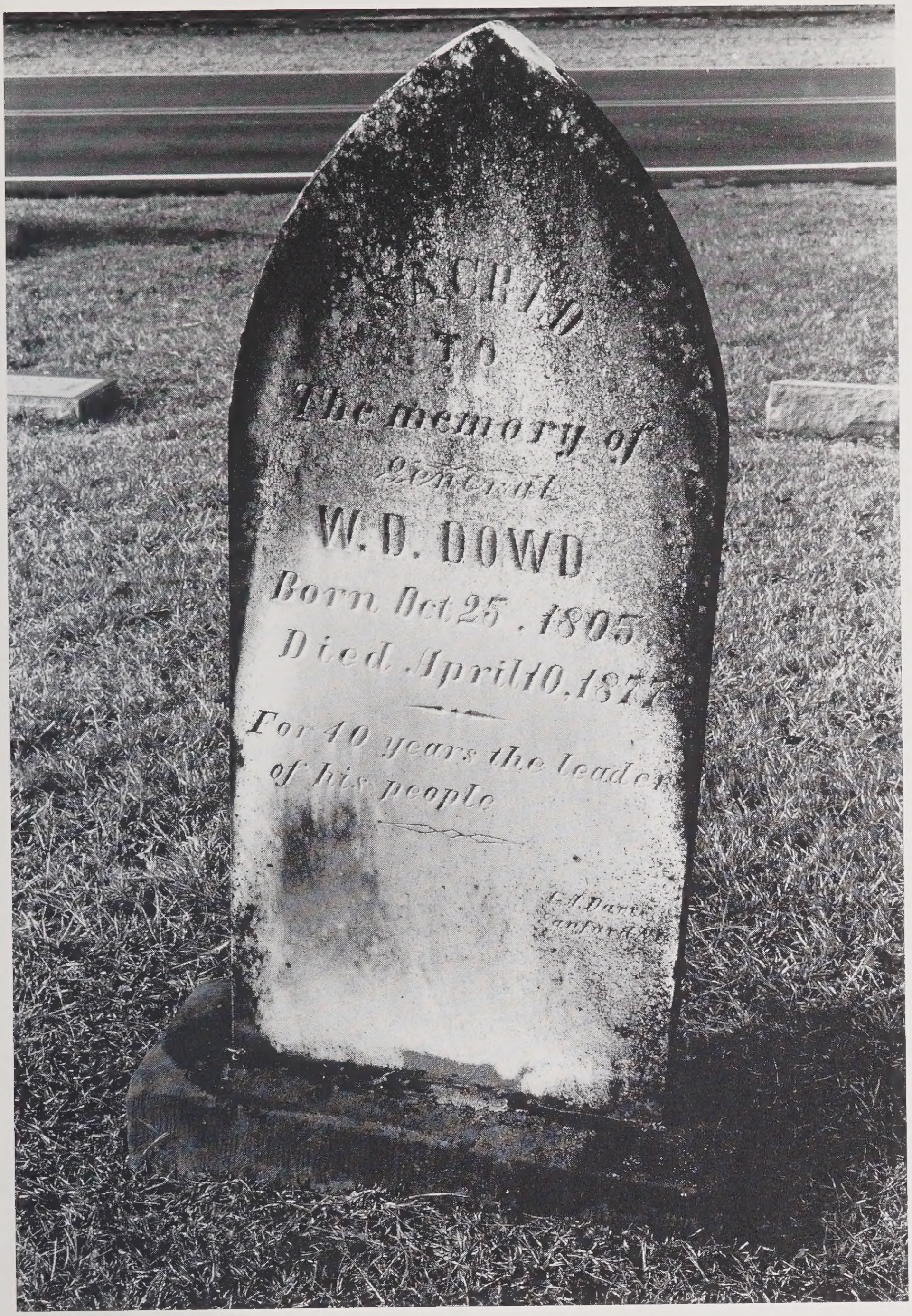


Figure 3.55 Marble headstone of W. D. Dowd in the Cool Springs Baptist Church cemetery, 1313 Cool Springs Road (SR 1325), Sanford vicinity

the lancet-form brownstone monument of two-year-old Eddie H. Jourdan, the son of Edmond and Camilla Jourdan. The finely crafted Jourdan headstone has a defective molding that may have rendered it unfit for export, prompting its use by the Jourdan family. The cemeteries at Poplar Springs Methodist Church, Shallow Well Christian Church, and Cumnock have curious brownstone headstones that may also have been produced by the French stonecutters. These monuments have smooth tabletlike fronts for the inscriptions, and back surfaces carved into small rock-faced blocks. A row of three such monuments in the Cumnock Cemetery, each with individualized decorative tops, marks the graves of miners who died in the December 19, 1895 explosion at the Cumnock coal mine (Fig. 3.57).

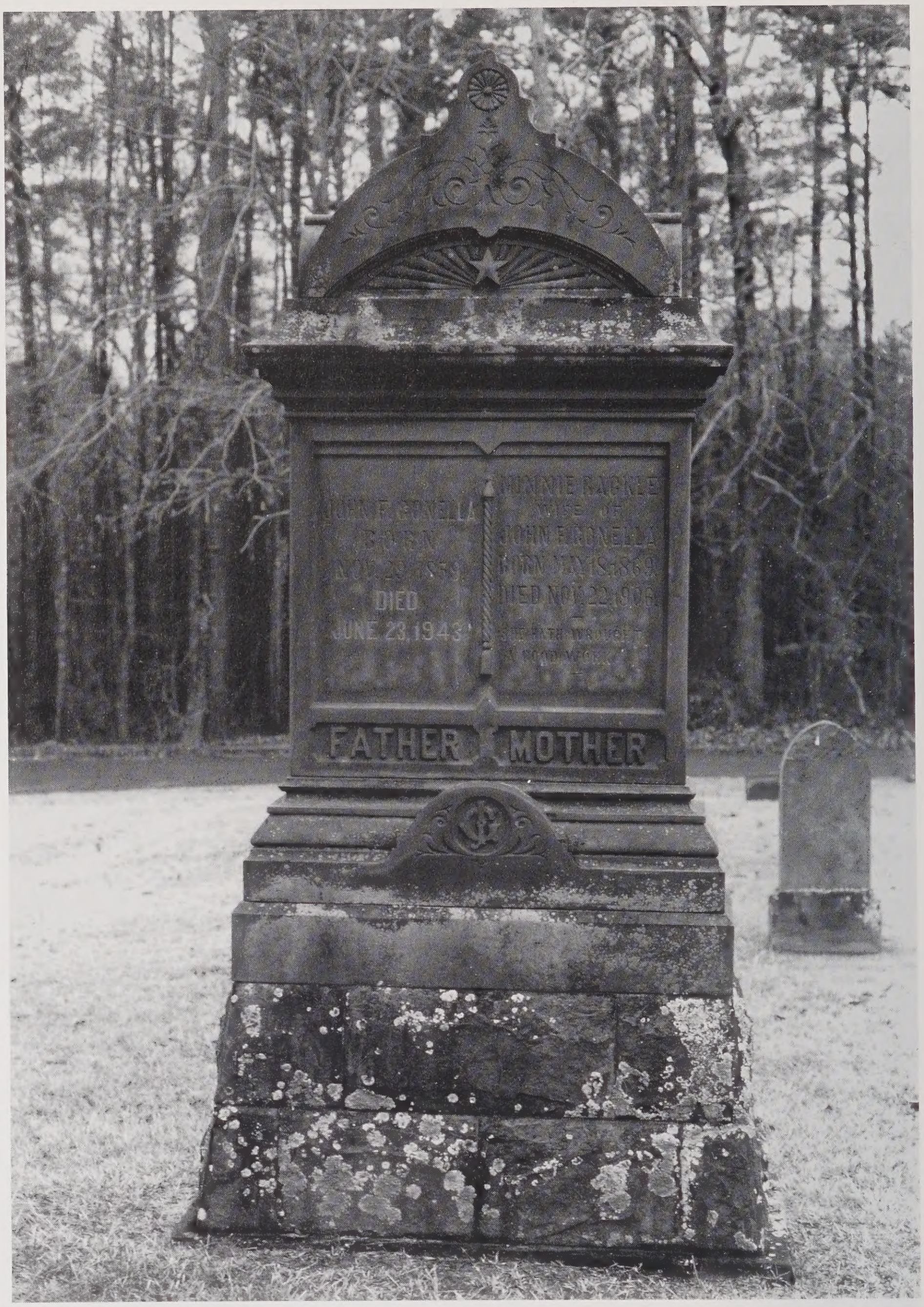


Figure 3.56 Brownstone monument of John F. and Minnie Rackle Gonella in the Buffalo Presbyterian Church cemetery, 1333 Carthage Street, Sanford

The changes brought about by the railroad, reflected in the county's cemeteries and houses and virtually every other aspect of local culture, would continue to unfold during the twentieth century. By 1907, the year Lee County was created, the railroad-facilitated clearance of timber had reached a peak, and tobacco farmers soon moved in to turn cut-over acreage into productive farms. Local towns and villages prospered as a result, and in the 1920s an unprecedented building boom transformed Sanford into a townscape of high-rise commercial blocks and bungalow suburbs. The automobile joined the locomotive as a symbol of progress, and the county began to take on its modern appearance, with towns, industries, and farms tied together and to the outside world by a highway system that has changed little to this day.

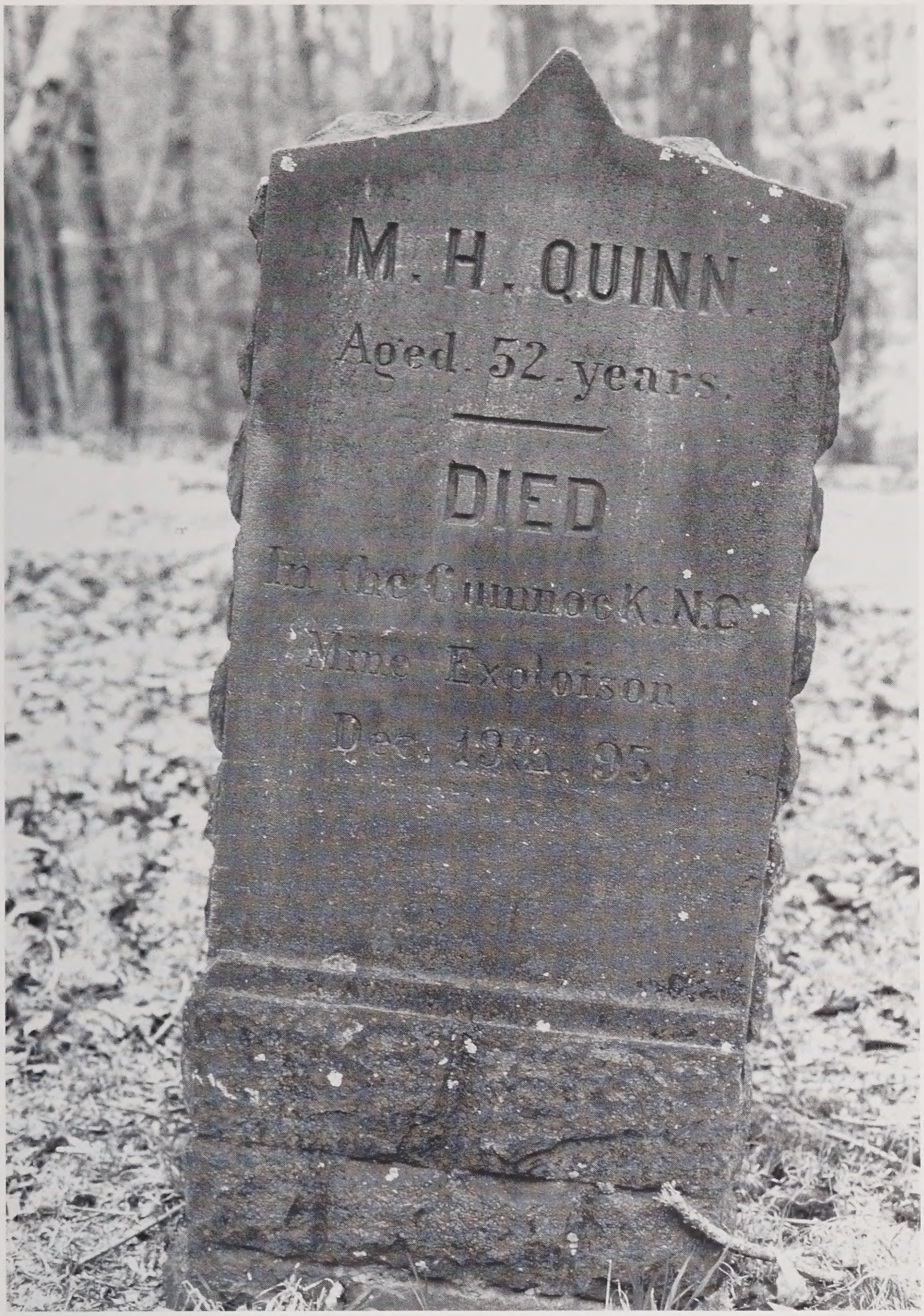


Figure 3.57 Brownstone headstone of M. H. Quinn (ca. 1843–95) in the Cumnock Cemetery, Cumnock

Lee County Courthouse just after completion (1908), 1408 South Horner Boulevard, Sanford (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)

4 The New County, 1907–1940

In 1905, Sanford attorney Duncan E. McIver met with the governor to promote the creation of a new county out of portions of Chatham and Moore counties. "My friend," McIver recalled the governor asking him, "What is the age of your youngest son?" McIver replied that his youngest was one year old. The governor responded, "When that son is an old man with [a] long gray beard there may be some chance for you to succeed in the establishment of your proposed new county of Lee." Within two years, despite the governor's prophecy and after a protracted battle between the "Lee County Lobby" and its opponents in Chatham and Moore counties, Lee County was officially established by the state legislature.[1]

The first attempt to create a new county from portions of Chatham and Moore had taken place a half century earlier. In 1867 or 1869 (accounts vary), Jonesboro attorney A. A. F. Seawell, Sr., organized a campaign to form Williams County, to be named after former governor and Moore County resident Benjamin Williams. The motives of Seawell and the other backers are obscure. The distance to Carthage, the Moore County seat, may have been one factor.[2] More compelling is the likelihood that Jonesboro businessmen hoped to boost the town's economy by securing a county seat.

But despite initial enthusiasm and the cooperation of the legislature, the Williams County idea was dropped. Hindsight offered various explanations. According to one account, "The idea was finally abandoned by the promoters themselves, as they deemed it wise to defer such action to a future day when increased population and material resources would enable them to maintain a separate existence with greater dignity and less proportionate cost to the individual taxpayer."[3] Others claimed that "people were too busy rebuilding their homes and cultivating their land without assistance," and, more important in the context of the Reconstruction era, "The general opinion was that men had best be sure Moore and Chatham counties were theirs as before the war instead of making a new county which might become completely dominated by outsiders who were flocking into the state."[4]

A second attempt was made in 1887 to form a new county out of portions of Chatham, Harnett, and Moore counties. Jefferson County, as it was to be known, was not approved by the state senate.[5] The proponents did not give up. Bills for the creation of a new county—this time named Lee in honor of the immensely popular Confederate general—were introduced in the legislature in 1903 and 1905. After these measures failed, for lack of political clout on the part of the backers, the movement's leaders focused on electing a local man to the state senate. Mass meetings held in early 1906 resulted in the nomination of Jonesboro attorney A. A. F. Seawell, Jr., son and namesake of the backer of the ill-fated Williams County. After a campaign described as "one of the hottest contests in the history of Moore County politics," Seawell won.[6]

With Seawell in the senate, the so-called Lee County Lobby launched a concerted effort to win the support of legislators and the public. "No one who witnessed the spectacle," wrote the *Raleigh News and Observer*, "will ever forget the picture presented by the hundreds of resolute men as they marched with almost the precision of a small army from the station to the capitol building with Lee County badges gaily fluttering from their buttonholes, and determination of purpose writ large upon their faces."[7] The proponents drafted a fact sheet for the General Assembly—"Information Concerning the Proposed County of Lee"—setting forth the arguments in favor of the new county. Chief among these was the old complaint about distance to court, backed up by a reference to the new realities of the railroad age, which had made Sanford-Jonesboro and its hinterland an economically distinct subunit of Chatham and Moore counties. The fact sheet assured legislators that the political balance in the state would not be altered by the formation of the new county. Adding steam to the Lee County Lobby's efforts was the celebrated hundredth anniversary of Robert E. Lee's birth, which fell on January 21, 1907.[8]

Not all the citizens of the proposed county supported its creation. One petition asserted the new county would "impose upon us a burden of taxation that we do not want to bear."[9] Attorneys and county officials in Carthage and Pittsboro also opposed the creation of Lee County, which would result in the loss of legal business and tax revenues. The *Carthage Blade* ran a series of humorous editorials under the title "The County Grafters," insinuating that the proposed county was part of a scheme to develop a new town ("Grafton") between Sanford and Jonesboro, to the detriment of both. The paper poked fun at the Lee County lobby's strategy: "The new county will be named after some big gun to make it popular all over the state."[10] Despite formidable opposition, and with a strong voice in the senate to speak on its behalf, the Lee County Lobby was ultimately successful. The act creating Lee County passed into law on March 6, 1907.[11] "We regret that the County of Moore has been dismembered," lamented the *Carthage Blade*.[12] The *Chatham Record*, after predicting the defeat of the new county movement in February, acknowledged on March 7 that its legislator "could [not] prevent the foreordained creation of that Calvinistic county."[13]

As a political entity, Lee County officially came into existence on January 1, 1908, and the county commissioners met for the first time on February 17. The first crop of county officials included political leaders such as T. N. Campbell, merchants such as Jonesboro's Jesse L. Godfrey and Lemon Springs's J. J. Edwards, and industrialists such as John R. Jones of the Sanford Cotton Mills.[14] The act of establishment designated a point midway between the passenger depots in Jonesboro and Sanford as the site of the county courthouse.[15] This compromise placed the building in the middle of undeveloped countryside, and for many years the Lee County Courthouse was the only one in the state with a Rural Free Delivery mailing address.[16] As the *Carthage Blade* had wryly predicted during the new county campaign, business leaders promptly laid out lots in the vicinity of the courthouse. The plan coincided with a scheme to consolidate Sanford and Jonesboro into a new city to be known as Arlington, after Robert E. Lee's Virginia estate. Arlington never became a reality, but lot purchasers did build in the area, eventually linking Sanford and Jonesboro with continuous development.[17]

Sanford figured as the new county's largest and most prosperous town, the result of steady industrial growth during the 1880s and 1890s (Fig. 4.1). Foremost among the town's new industries was the Sanford Cotton Mills. Incorporated in June 1899 by John W. Scott, Sr., and a group of investors, the company constructed a sprawling factory along the Seaboard tracks several blocks north of the downtown (Fig. 4.2).[18] Contractor J. W. Brown and his son Vesper were probably employed to erect the main mill building in 1900, as well as later ancillary structures.[19] In the mill village laid out on the hillside to the east of the mill, dozens of one-story frame cottages sprang up, probably erected by John W. Scott, Sr.'s Sanford Sash & Blind factory, and a company store went up across the tracks on Chisholm Street. Mill workers who did not live in company housing stayed at boarding houses like that of Marinda Crocker on First Street.[20]

By 1908, the Sanford Cotton Mills operated 11,000 spindles and four hundred looms and produced 106,000 yards of Father George sheeting a week (Fig. 4.3).[21] Other brands produced at the mill included Pride of the Home, Sanford, and Waterfall.[22] In 1925, the mill employed 175 operatives, a workforce that grew to 250 ten years later, when it was claimed that the mill supported

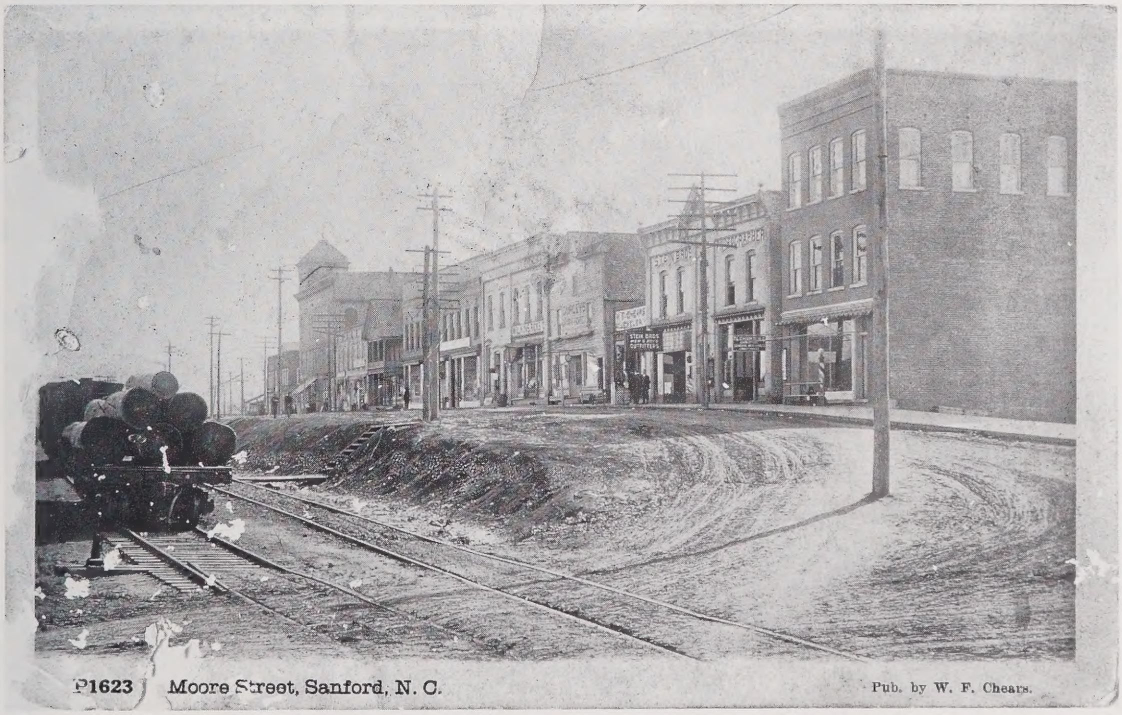


Figure 4.1
The character and density of construction in downtown Sanford at the beginning of the twentieth century is illustrated by this view of South Moore Street. The Connor H. Smith Building (1909) stands in the foreground.

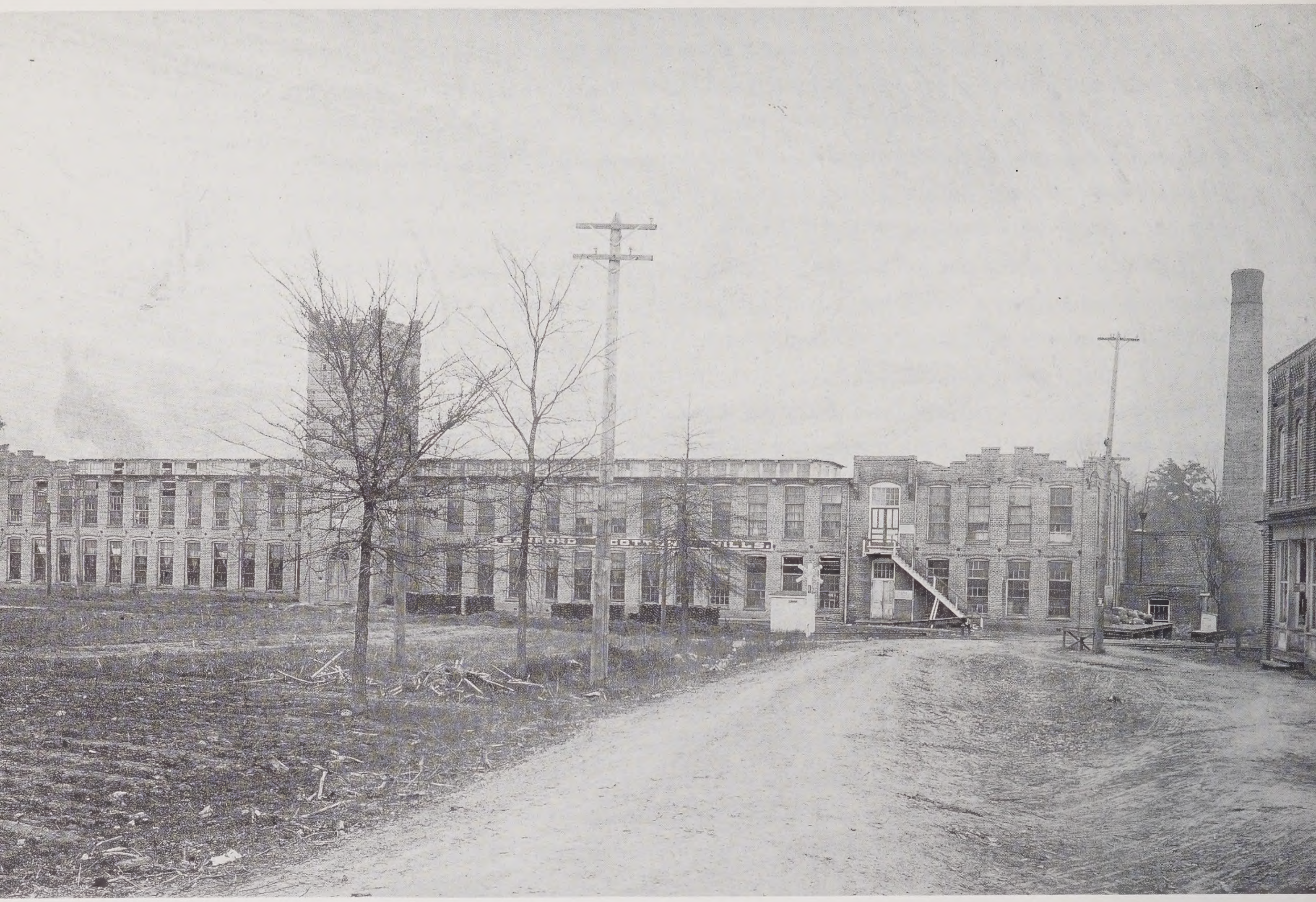


Figure 4.2 Sanford Cotton Mills (ca. 1900), Chisholm Street, Sanford

one-fifth of the population of Sanford.[23] The Sanford Cotton Mills were described as the "magnet" that attracted other industries to Sanford during the first decades of the twentieth century.[24]

Among Sanford's new industries was an enterprise with a surprisingly modern corporate structure. In 1907, employees of the Tyson Buggy Factory in Carthage incorporated the Sanford Buggy Company and planned the construction of a two-story factory at 115 Chatham Street. The Sanford Buggy Company was employee-owned and -operated, unlike other industries of the period, where a wide gulf often separated owners and workers (Fig. 4.4). The company manufactured buggies and one-horse rockaways, but as automobiles became more popular, its market withered away, and in the 1920s the factory was converted into an automobile showroom and garage.[25]

The town's expanding industrial base required capital. To meet this need, perennial booster John W. Scott, Sr., and a newcomer, William J. Edwards, formed the Chatham, Moore & Harnett Bank in the late 1890s. At first the bank operated out of the Stroud Brothers Building on South Moore Street, but in 1901 it built a new home on the west corner of Wicker and South Moore streets. The three-story Commercial Building housed the bank and stores at street level, with office space and a meeting hall—the town "opera house"—above (Fig. 4.5).[26] About the same time that the Chatham, Moore & Harnett Bank commenced operations in Sanford, Jonesboro businessmen established their town's first bank, and a bank may even have operated briefly in Cumnock. By 1907, Lee County had four banks, two each in Sanford and Jonesboro.[27]

William J. Edwards (1859–1916) regarded banking as a means for pursuing his true passion: railroading. Before moving to Sanford from Raleigh in 1896, Edwards headed the purchasing

Figure 4.3 The Father George label

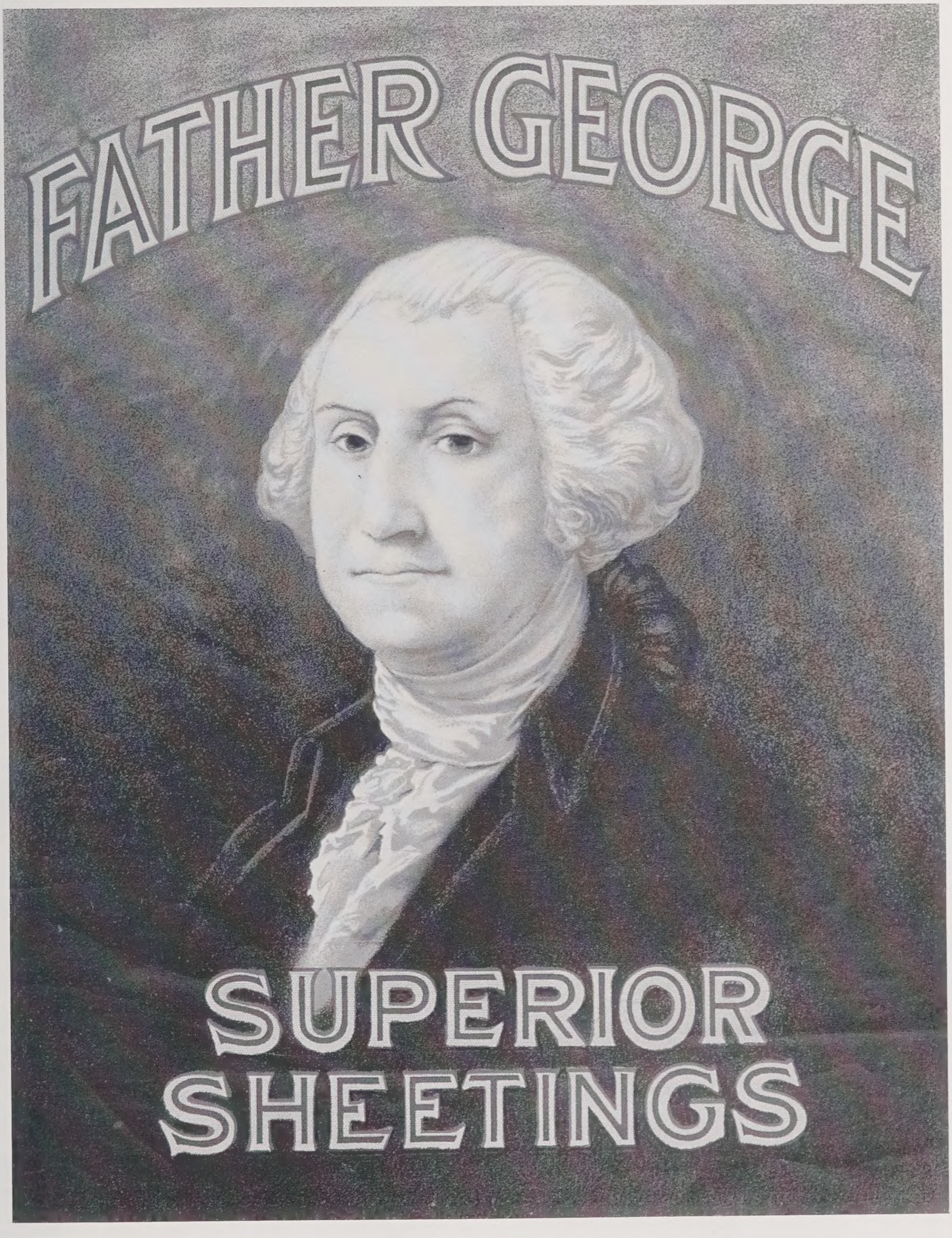
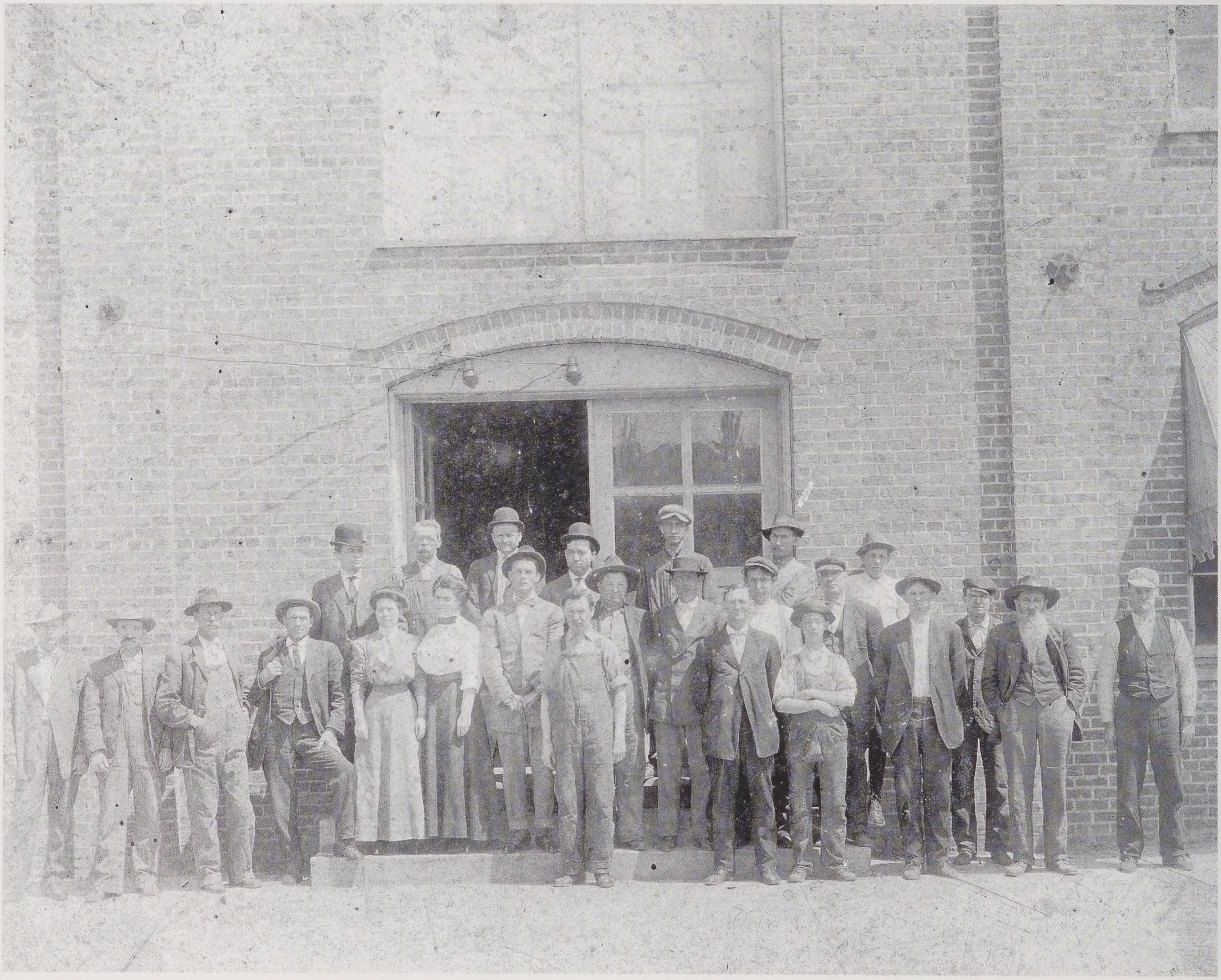


Figure 4.4
Workers in front of the Sanford Buggy Factory, 115 Chatham Street, Sanford (Photo ca. 1910)

and supply department of the Seaboard Air Line, a position that acquainted him with Sanford's superb rail connections. In 1899, he chartered the Atlantic & Western Railroad with the ultimate (but unrealized) objective of extending a line to the Atlantic Ocean. The A&W branched off the Atlantic Coast Line (the successor of the Western and Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley lines) just east of the main Sanford ("Union") passenger depot. The railroad built its own depot near the corner of Chatham and Maple streets and a machine shop at the intersection of Market Street and Hickory Avenue.[28] In late 1903, the line opened to Jonesboro, and in 1905 it reached Broadway, setting off a development boom in the southeastern Lee County community. Sidings and depots were established at Monroe (to serve the Lee County Cotton Oil Company on Rose Street), Purnell (located east of Jonesboro), and Sloans (located near Shallow Well Christian Church).[29]

In addition to helping southeastern Lee County and western Harnett County farmers to better market their crops and forest products, during peak years the A&W brought an estimated one thousand shoppers a month to Sanford.[30] After William J. Edwards's death in the 1910s, the



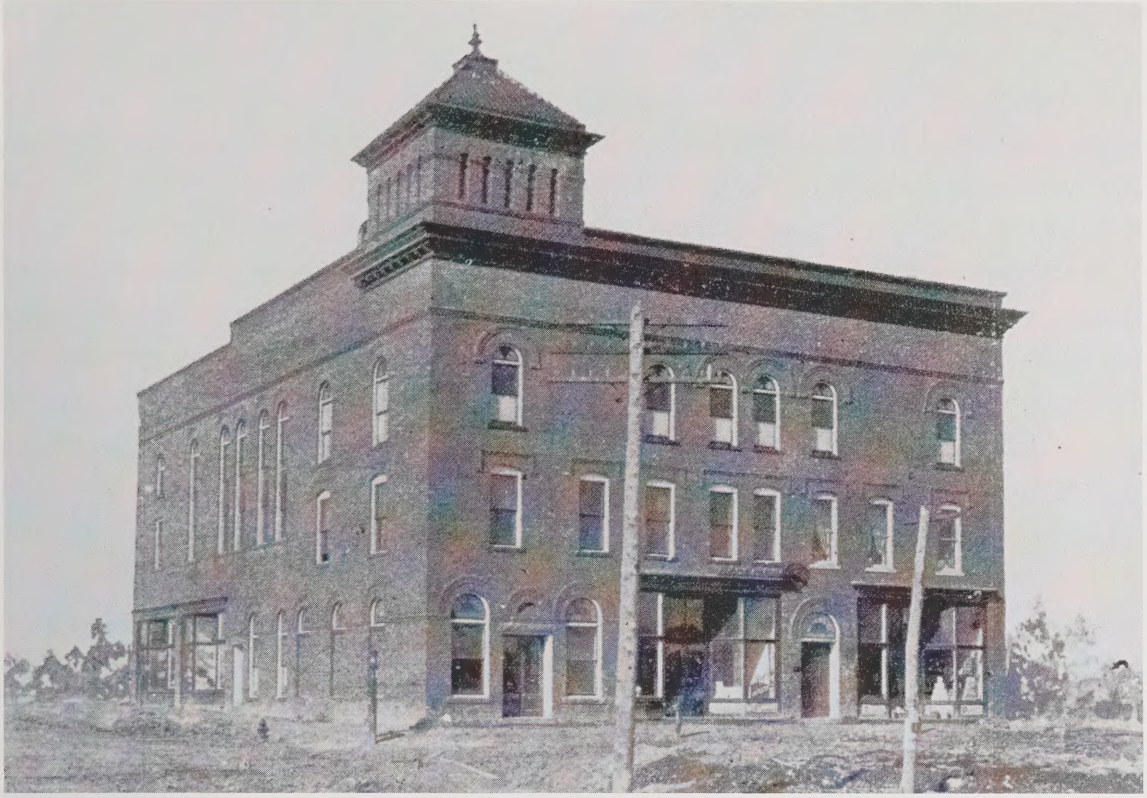


Figure 4.5 Commercial Building (1901), west corner of South Moore and Wicker streets, Sanford (destroyed by fire in 1945)

line was run by his son, Harry P. Edwards, who in later years established the A&W offices in the Lutterloh Building at 201 Chatham Street.[31] Today, A&W rolling stock still travels Lee County rail lines.

The Atlantic & Western demonstrated Sanford's potential as a regional rail hub, and soon new lines crisscrossed the county. In 1909, investors with the Egypt Improvement Company, including railroad mogul John B. Lenning of Philadelphia and local entrepreneur John H. Kennedy of Cumnock, organized the Sanford & Glendon Railroad Company. Renamed the Sanford & Troy Railroad shortly after incorporation, the line managed to grade a section of road bed from Cumnock westward before control passed to the Raleigh, Charlotte & Southern Railway in 1911. The RC&S was created by railroad giant Norfolk Southern to forge a direct connection between the cities of Raleigh and Charlotte, and it soon set to work building a link between the tiny Lee County community of Colon and the Wake County town of Varina (now Fuquay-Varina), spanning the Cape Fear River at McKay Island. Its mission accomplished, the RC&S was absorbed by Norfolk Southern in 1914.[32] The Norfolk Southern, like all the roads before it, encouraged town formation and development. Where the line crossed the Lower Moncure Road (SR 1507), a local landowner platted streets and lots at the Rosser depot, but a town never developed at the remote location.[33] Colon, at the junction of the Norfolk Southern and Seaboard lines, became the focus of major brick production during the 1920s.

Quarry owners and lumber barons webbed the countryside with small-gauge lines designed to channel their products to the larger roads. The Southern Red & Brownstone Company Railroad, the Carolina Brownstone Company Railroad, and the Greystone Granite & Construction Company Railroad were created in the 1890s to serve Sanford's brownstone quarries. Temporary lumber railroads or tram lines proliferated; one, the Cameron & Gulf Tramway Company, may have paralleled the old branch plank road to Gulf (SR 1007).[34] The community of Tramway, located southwest of Sanford, takes its name from a lumber railroad built into the area. Stores, cotton gins, a grist mill, a sawmill, a turpentine distillery, and Make Black's saloon operated at Tramway during the early 1900s. Gilbert H. Riddle established his locally renowned furniture shop there in 1930, and William T. Cheshire established the Tramway Feed Mill about 1950.[35]

The most dramatic rail-related town development of the period occurred at the southeastern Lee County farming community of Broadway. At the end of the nineteenth century, Broadway was little more than a cluster of houses, stores, and small-scale industries. In 1898, estimates put the population of the "pleasant country village" at fifty people. Community leader Malcolm M. Watson operated a store, post office, and turpentine distillery, and the Underwood family ran a nearby planing mill during the 1880s. One pillar of community life was the village school, opened shortly after the Civil War in a tenant house owned by Malcolm M. Watson and reorganized as the Broadway Normal School by Prof. M. A. McLeod in the 1890s. The institution's progressive spirit encouraged the establishment in 1911 of one of the state's earliest Parent-Teacher Associations.

Broadway's sleepy character changed abruptly in March 1905, when the Atlantic & Western connected the village to Sanford and Jonesboro. The A&W pushed eastward, moving its terminus to Lillington in 1912, but in the meantime Broadway flourished as the trade center for the Lee-Harnett county borderland.[36] Several new businesses sprang up the first year, among them Marks Brothers, a cotton buying and general merchandise firm, and the planing mill of the Broadway Lumber Company, headed by future A&W president H. P. Edwards.[37] But the infant town was dealt a serious blow in May 1906, when a fire originating at the lumber mill burned down the A&W depot and the first generation of frame-built stores.[38] The town's merchants rebuilt, first provisionally in frame, then in brick, and eventually today's solid wall of one-story brick commercial buildings lined the east side of Main Street (Figs. 4.6, 4.7, 4.8).

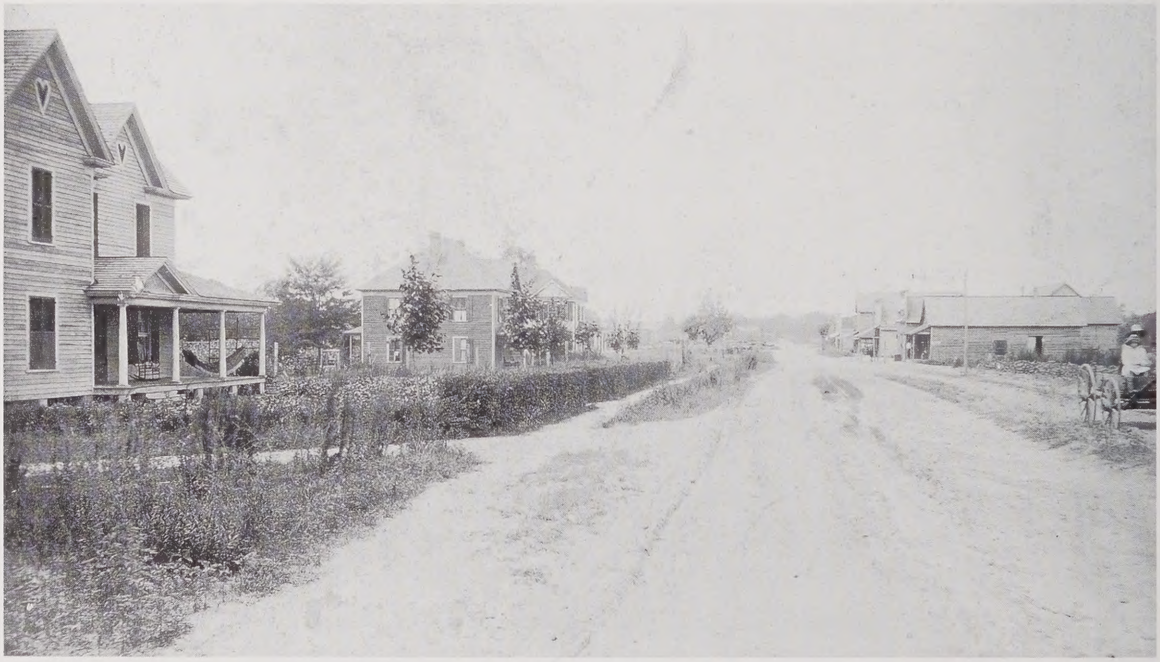
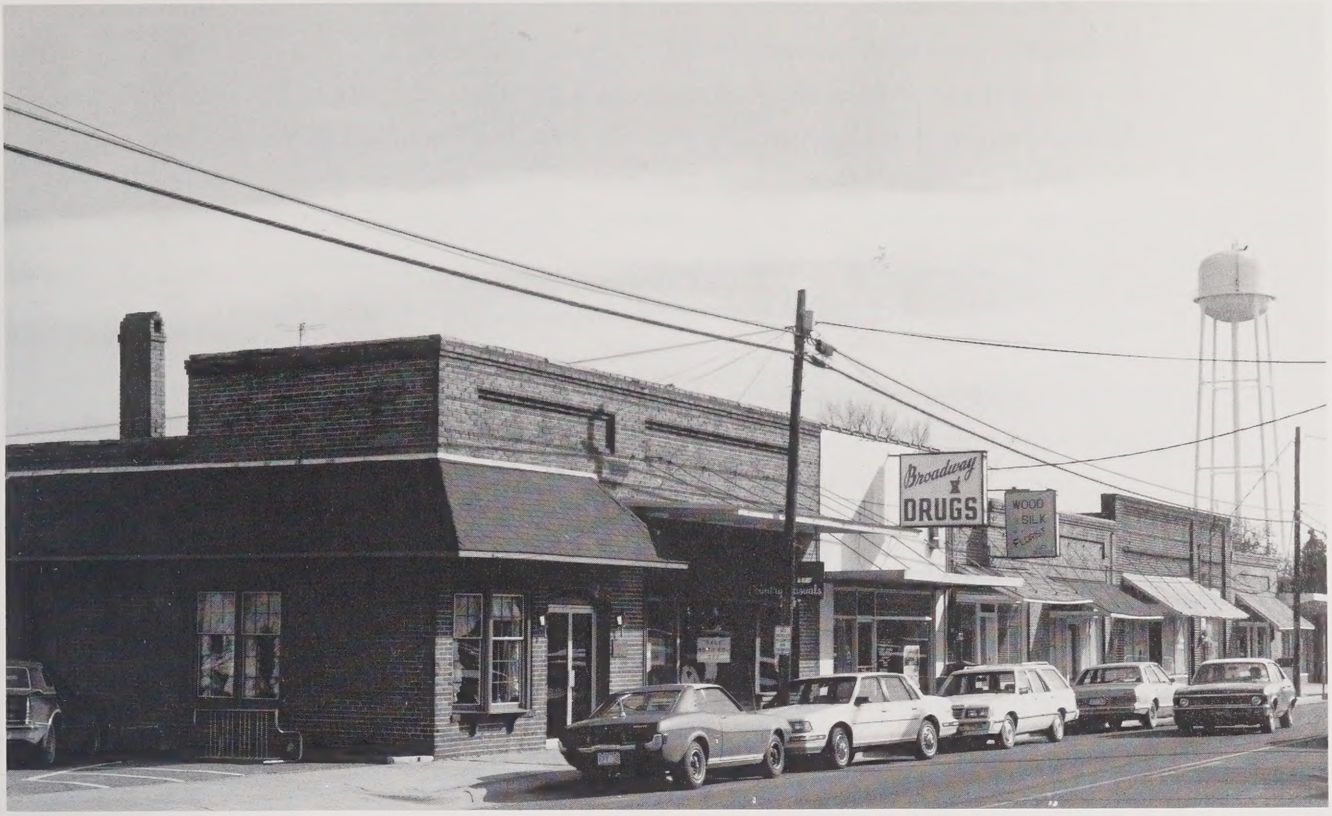


Figure 4.6 Main Street in Broadway looking northwestward, ca. 1910. On the left is the George T. and Nellie G. Chandler House, later remodeled in the Craftsman style. (Courtesy of Ted Chandler and Belinda Gail Dickens)



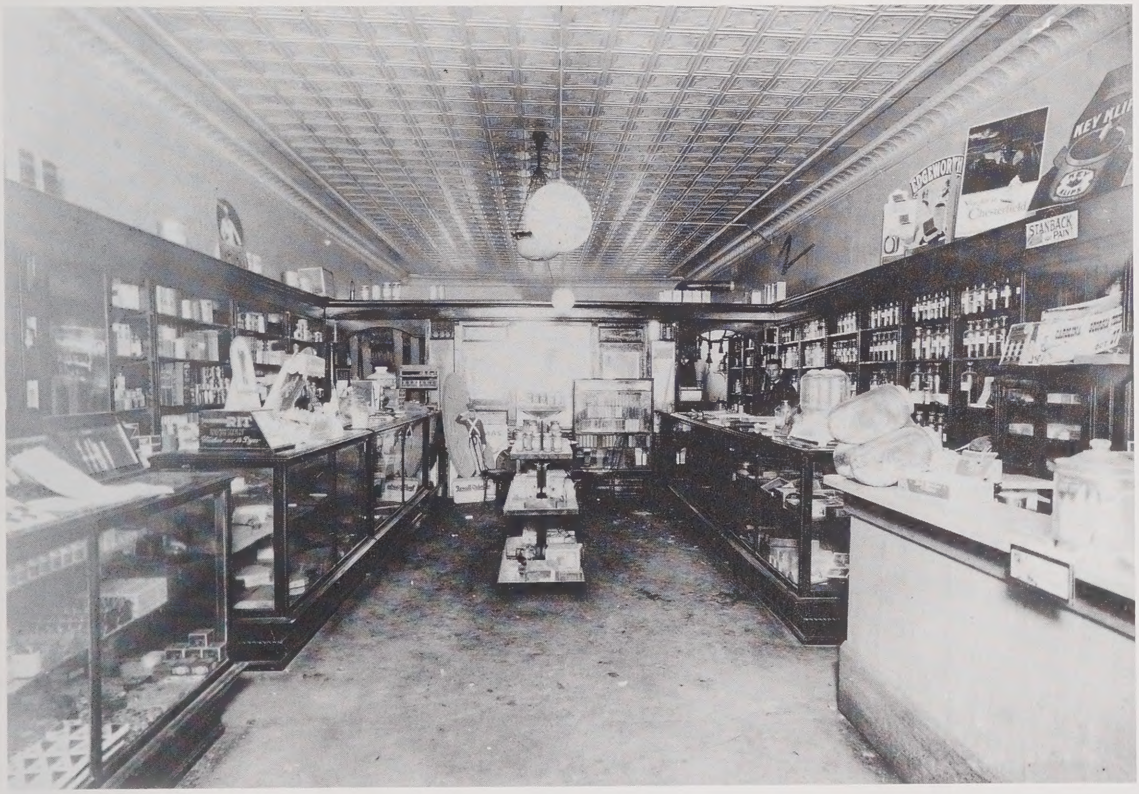


Figure 4.7 Main Street in Broadway, ca. 1980 (Photo by Michael Southern, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

Figure 4.8 Interior of the Broadway Drug Company, 1915. With its pressed metal ceiling, wood shelves and counters, and glass display cases, the Broadway Drug Company featured many of the accoutrements of a typical salesroom in Lee County's small towns. (Courtesy of Sharon H. Cox)

The boom town's population swelled to three hundred individuals by 1913. The number of merchants in and near Broadway, as listed in period business directories, grew from four in 1910 to six in 1913 and seven in 1915.[39] Several cotton gins also operated in the town, and by 1909 the Bank of Broadway had been established, with Jonesboro banker A. W. Huntley as president and D. E. Shaw as cashier.[40] Described as "one of those shrewd, unexcitable 'country bankers,'" D. E. Shaw later served as the bank's president and guided it through the Great Depression. "When the whole banking structure was apparently collapsing," the local press reported at the time, "the Bank of Broadway sailed serenely and nonchalantly along its course, refusing to curtail its service."[41]

Lumbering contributed to the town's economy through the mid-twentieth century. The Broadway Lumber Company undertook a major expansion in December 1906, adding a lumber kiln, boiler house, water tank, planing shed, engine room, and loading platforms. In July 1907, the mill produced 20,000 feet of long- and shortleaf pine lumber a day.[42] In the 1910s, the mill was acquired by two officers of the Broadway Store Company, George T. Chandler and T. M. Farlowe.[43] Renamed the Chandler-Farlowe Lumber Company, the enterprise operated a planing mill and box factory at a site behind the present post office until Chandler's death in 1952. After 1952, the planing mill continued under the management of George Chandler's son, Clarence.[44]

Broadway, Colon, Tramway, and the county's other communities benefited from the railroad prosperity of the early twentieth century. So too did Sanford's African-American community. By the 1910s, Pearl Street had developed as the commercial and institutional heart of the town's black community. In 1915, three churches stood on or near the street, and businessmen Dr. D. L. Bland, A. Lincoln Boykin, and J. S. Phillips formed the Phillips-Boykin Drug Company, which later sold drugs, tobacco, soft drinks, and other merchandise from a two-story building on the corner of Pearl and South Moore streets.[45] The Blue Hotel and the Dreamland Theater opened in the 1920s, and Cicero Heck (ca. 1876–1943) published the *Enterprise*, dedicated to the "Religious, Educational and Social Development" of its readership in Lee and surrounding counties.[46]

The period's most successful black businessman was Arnold Lincoln Boykin (ca. 1870–1943), one of the partners of the Phillips-Boykin drug store. At first working as a carpenter with the Seaboard Air Line, by 1910 "Link" Boykin established himself as a general contractor in Sanford, and in the 1920s his payroll numbered as many as fifty carpenters, brickmasons, and other tradesmen.[47] Boykin built several prominent buildings in Sanford, including the Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Church at 712 Wall Street and the Lee County Training School, and his houses throng the older neighborhoods of Sanford and nearby communities.

Domestic service offered one of the few employment opportunities available to African-American women in Sanford and Jonesboro. Black maids and cooks often lived in small dwellings located behind the homes of their white employers, an antebellum tradition that in the late nineteenth century was transferred to the towns. For their servant Line Bingham (d. 1918), the Lutterloh family built a small servant's quarter behind their house at 216 McIver Street in Sanford during the 1890s (Fig. 4.9). Bingham's one-room log house (now gone) featured a stone chimney and a single door and window.[48] Another early servant's quarter survives behind the 1927 Roy G. Sowers House at 2122 Lee Avenue in Jonesboro. The tiny frame dwelling was built in the late 1920s for the Sowers family's cook and housekeeper (Fig. 4.10).[49] A one-story concrete-block servant's quarter dating to the mid-twentieth century stands behind the John N.

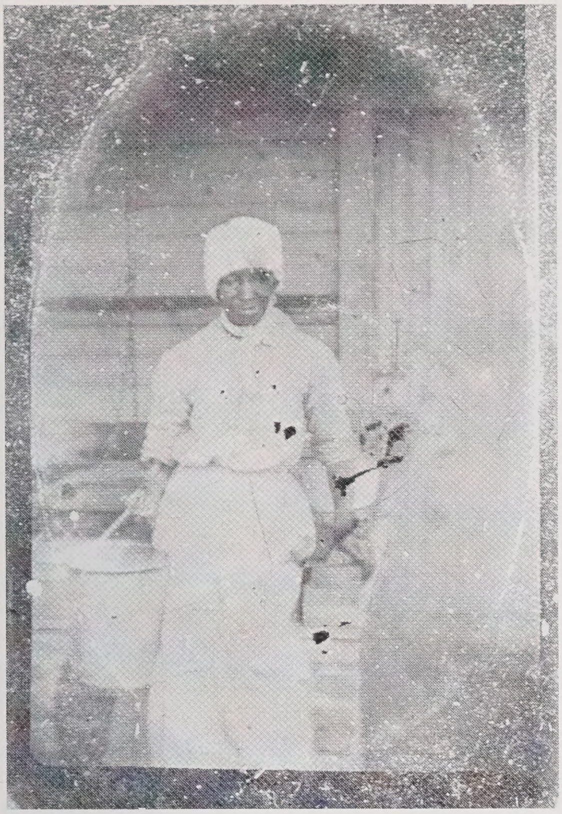


Figure 4.9
Line Bingham in front of the Lutterloh wellhouse (Courtesy of Dr. Hayden Lutterloh, Jr.)

Figure 4.10
The servant's quarter behind the Roy G. Sowers House (late 1920s), 2122 Lee Avenue, Jonesboro

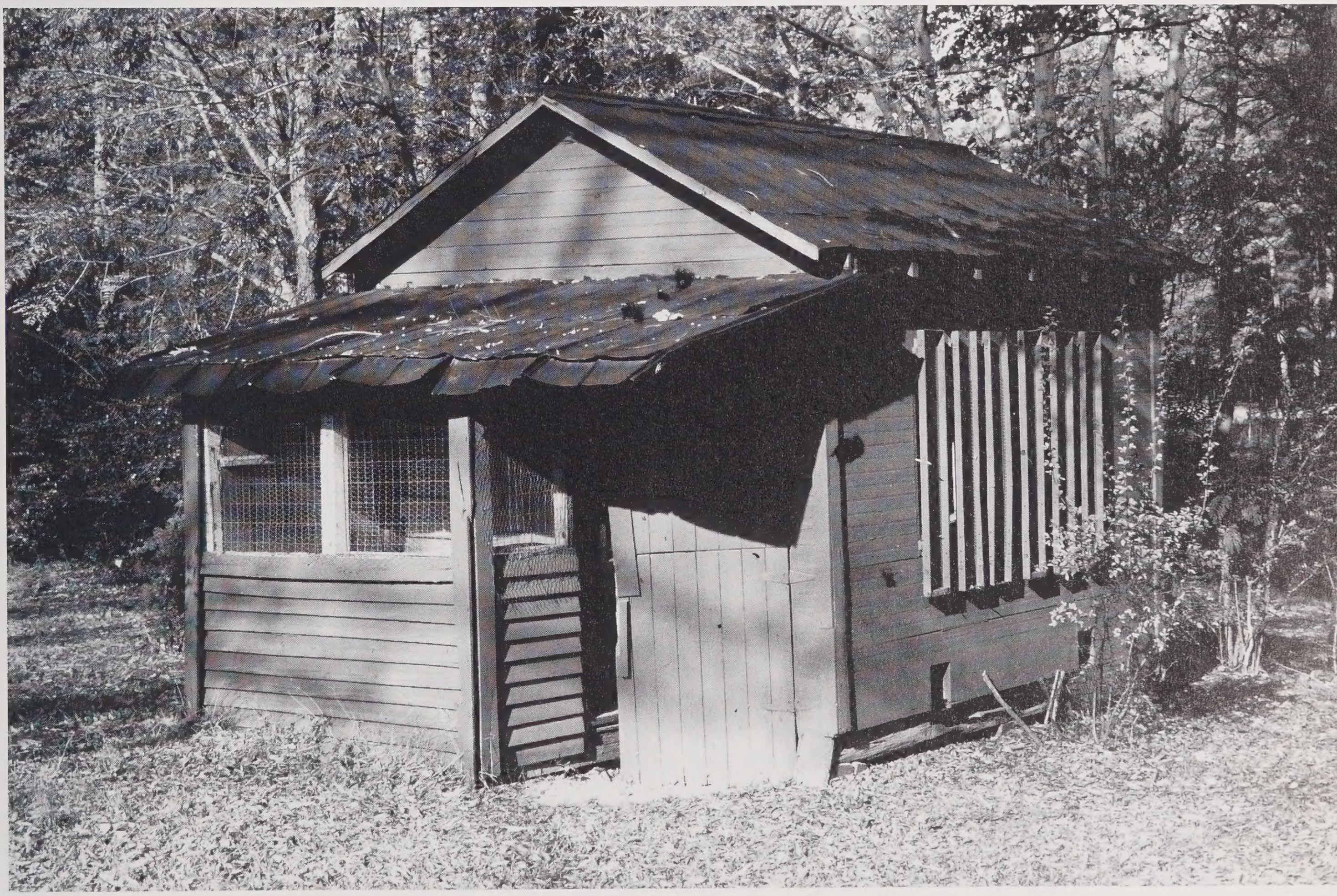
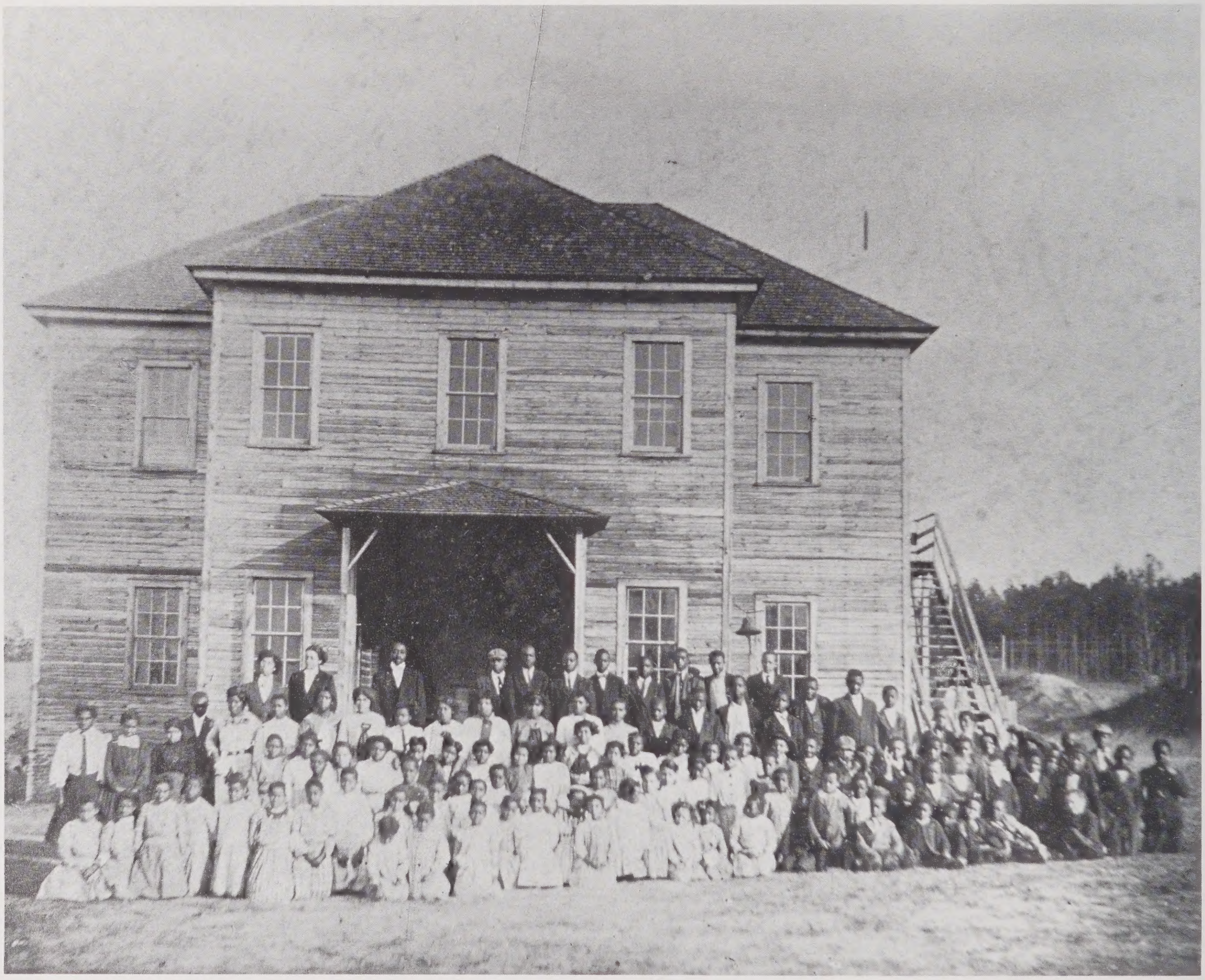


Figure 4.11
South Sanford Graded School (ca. 1900), Washington Avenue, Sanford (demolished)

and Isabella Barnes House at 2517 S. Academy Street in Jonesboro, and a semidetached wing of the 1949–50 Lewis D. Isenhour House at 300 Carbonton Road formerly served as a maid's residence.[50]

During the early twentieth century, the church and the school formed the social bedrock of Lee County's African-American community. The county's early black churches are relatively well documented, but little is known about early black schooling until the establishment of the South Sanford Graded School in the 1910s (Fig. 4.11). At first housed in a two-story, five-classroom frame building on Washington Avenue, the South Sanford school remained poorly equipped and understaffed until 1924, when William Bartelle Wicker took the reins. The dynamic new principal increased the number of students enrolled in the high school curriculum from nine in 1924 (out of a total student body of 365) to fifteen during the 1925–26 school year and to over thirty in 1927–28.[51]

Wicker used these statistics to lobby the Rosenwald Fund—a fund conceived by southern black leader Booker T. Washington and supported by northern philanthropists, chiefly Julius Rosenwald—to provide a new high school building for Sanford and Lee County's African-American community.[52] The result was the Lee County Training School, a ten-room brick



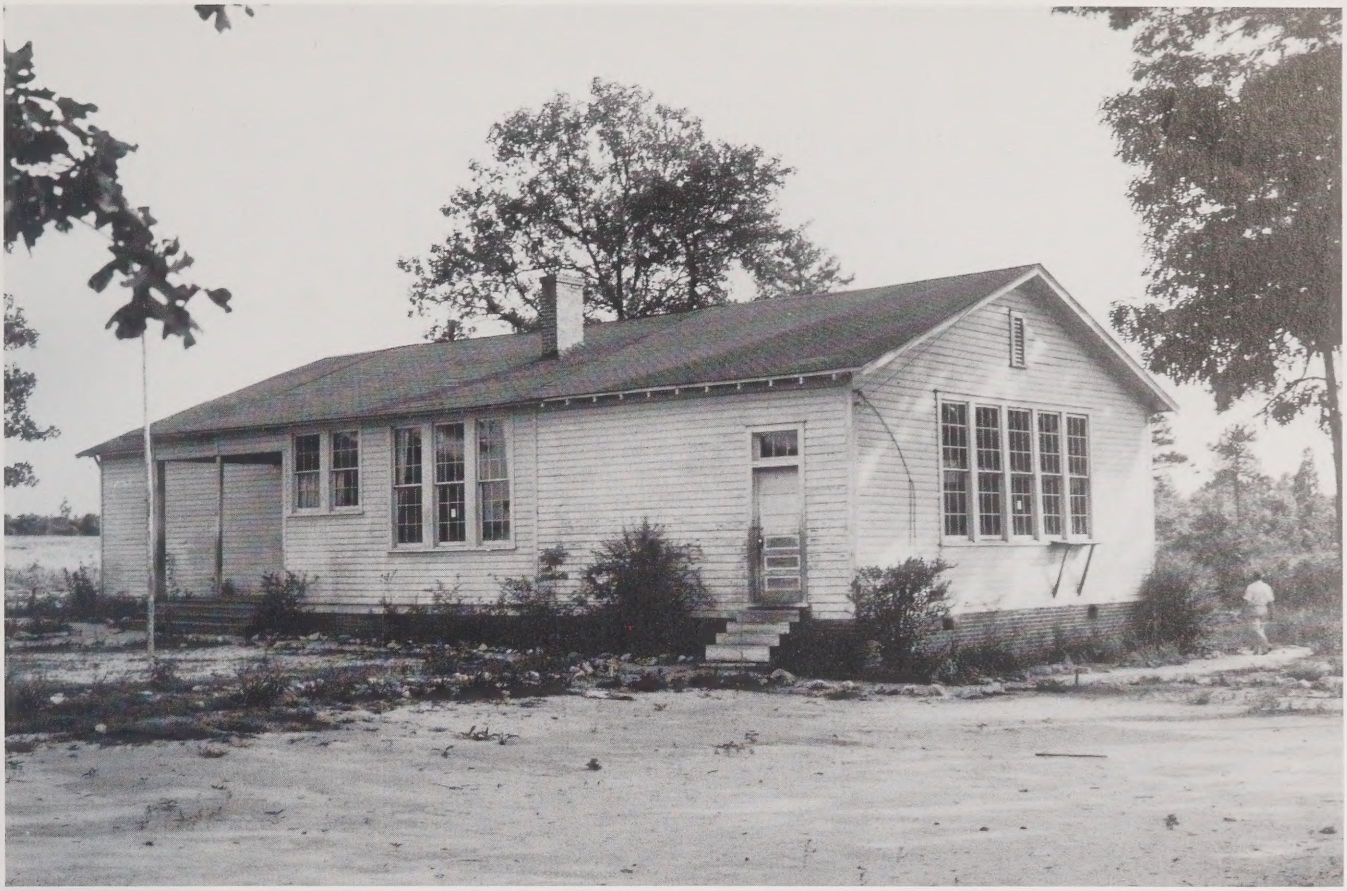


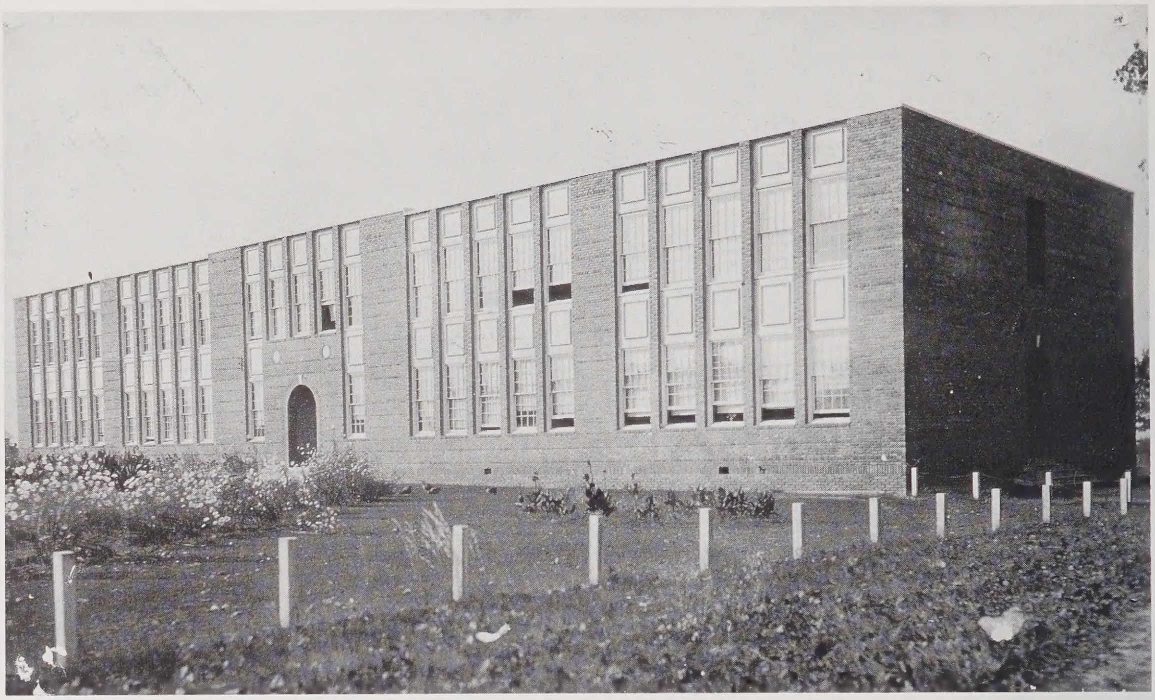
Figure 4.12
McIver School (1928), 6819 Sanders Road (SR 1177), Lemon Spring vicinity (demolished) (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

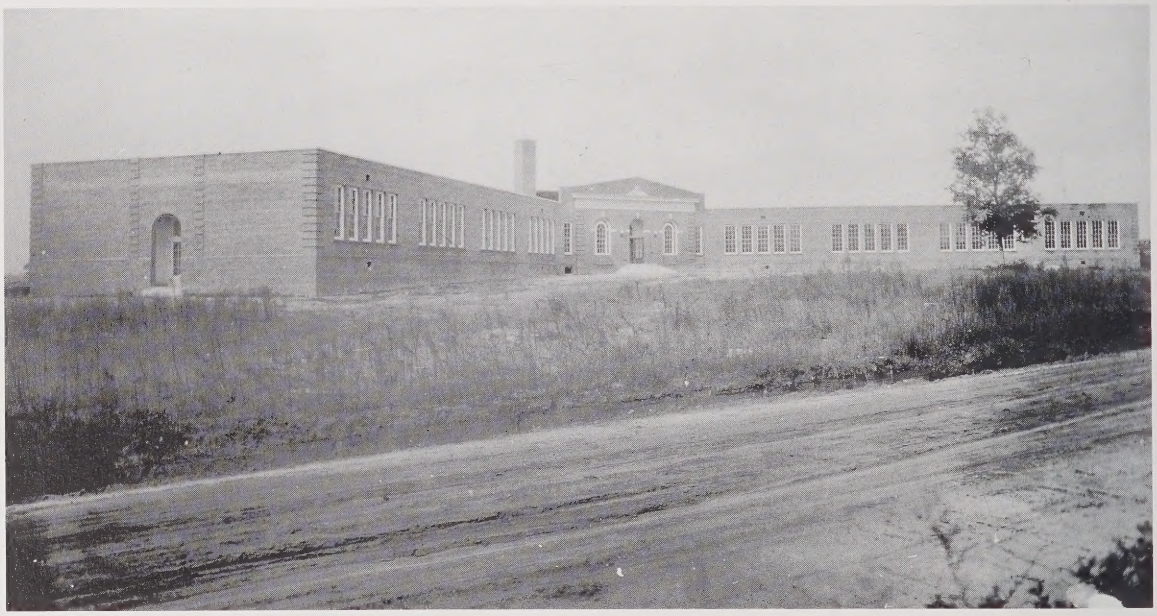
building based on a design by architect H. B. Hunter and built by A. Lincoln Boykin in 1927.[53] By 1947, enrollment at the school had grown to 828 students, and a gymnasium, cafeteria, and agricultural building had been added to the campus. The Lee County Training School was one of five African-American high schools in North Carolina to meet the full requirements of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools for the 1946–47 school year.[54]

The Rosenwald Fund also supported the construction of the McIver, Osgood, and Jonesboro black elementary schools during the 1920s. The McIver and Osgood schools were one-room buildings built by A. Lincoln Boykin for the contract price of $1,000 each (Fig. 4.12). The Jonesboro school was a larger building that stood until 1992 near the intersection of Dalrymple Street and NC 87.[55] A total of eight modern frame school buildings were built for Lee County blacks between 1919 and 1928.[56]

White educators pushed for school consolidation in the rural areas of the county during the 1920s, leading to the construction of large consolidated schools at Deep River in 1923–24, Broadway in 1926, and Lemon Springs (Greenwood) in 1929. The new brick schools featured sophisticated classical styling, with central pavilions, recessed round-arched entries, and other embellishments (Fig. 4.13, 4.14). Unmarried teachers at these schools lodged at boardinghouses known as "teacherages." Two-story brick buildings that harmonized architecturally with the adjacent schools, teacherages were built at Lemon Springs in 1934 and at Broadway in 1946 (Fig. 4.15).[57] The Jonesboro High School teacherage at 309 West Main Street, now used as the Jonesboro branch library, is the only 1930s teacherage still standing in the county.[58]

Figures 4.13, 4.14 Broadway and Greenwood (Lemon Springs) schools (both demolished) (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)





Consolidation allowed educators to expand course offerings. Especially popular were the county's vocational-agricultural (vo-ag) programs, housed in specialized facilities known as agriculture buildings. One of these buildings survives in Broadway on Mansfield Drive; the one-story brick building, begun in 1934, contains a classroom, office, and three shop rooms (Fig. 4.16).[59] Vo-ag instructors were assisted by the educational work of the Lee County Fair, begun in 1913 by the Lee County Agricultural Society. Discontinued during World War I and again at the beginning of the Great Depression, the fair was reinstituted in 1933 during the first optimistic year of the New Deal. Presently sponsored by the Sanford Lions Club, the fair opens each fall at a complex of exhibit halls on Colon Road in Sanford.[60]

Outside the public school system, the county agriculture extension office proved an important source of information and encouragement for farm families. W. R. Craig was appointed the county's first ag extension agent in 1911 (only four years after the state's first agent began work) and was succeeded by Tramway-area farmer James H. Henley. With his wife, Mittie M. Henley, Lee County's first home demonstration agent, Henley organized fourteen farmers clubs by the end of 1915, including a corn club for boys, a tomato club for girls, and a canning club for farm women and girls. "These pioneer County Agents," wrote a successor in 1967, "traveled

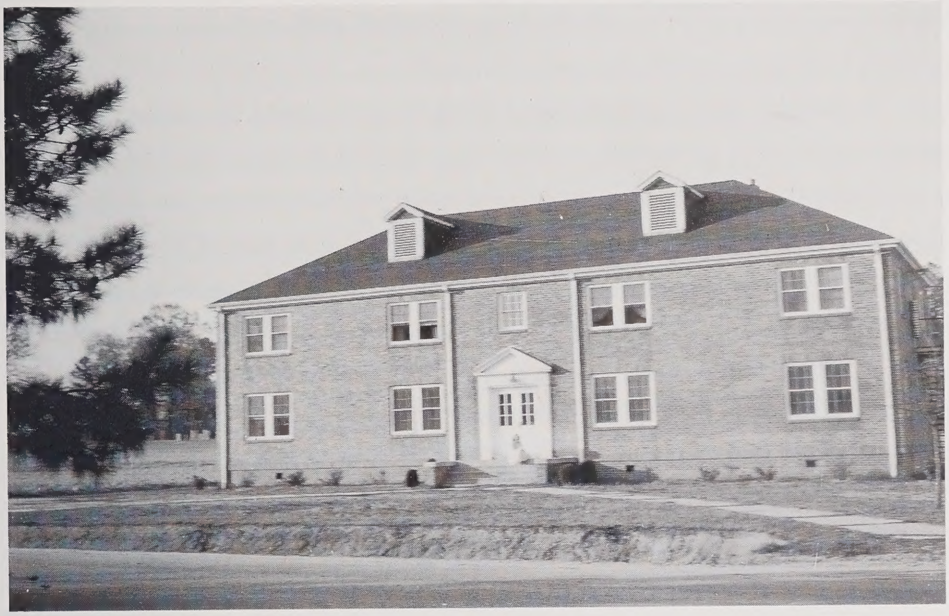


Figure 4.15 Greenwood School Teacherage (demolished) (Courtesy of James R. Roberts)

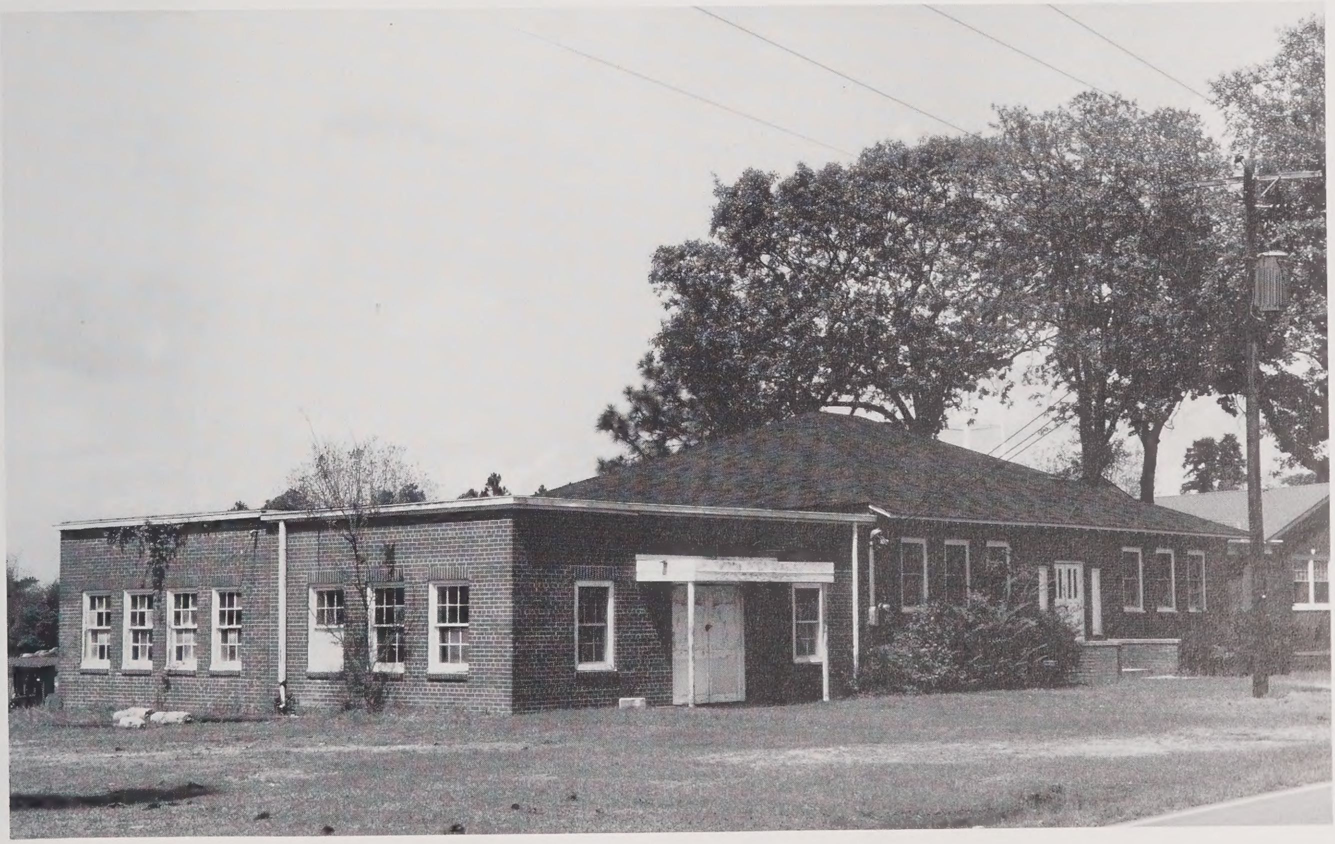


Figure 4.16 Broadway School Agriculture Building

by buggy or horseback and would spend the entire week visiting individual farmers, spending nights and boarding with those they visited. From the beginning, the major teaching method of the county agent was through demonstrations. By encouraging one farmer in the community to adopt and carry out improved farming practices, the other farmers would accept and use the information."[61]

Edgar O. McMahan came to the post in 1923 and soon earned a reputation for activism. McMahan wrote a column for the *Sanford Express*—"Lee County Farm Notes"—and used it to educate his readers about combating the boll weevil, rotating crops, and other sound farming practices. Home demonstration agent Gertrude Little had organized a curbside market in Sanford in 1922 to give farm women a place to sell surplus produce; McMahan followed Little's lead by forming cooperative buying and marketing associations.[62]

Increased interest in scientific farming, promoted by the county agent, the county fair, and later the vo-ag departments, coincided with an important development in the county's agriculture when, for the first time, tobacco was raised successfully in the county. An attempt had been made to cultivate the crop in the 1880s, but it was not until the years of the First World War that international market conditions, local timber clearance, and advances in technology (in particular the greater availability of fertilizers) made tobacco production profitable locally.[63] In 1909, Lee County farmers devoted only 25 acres to tobacco cultivation, but by 1919, tobacco acreage had jumped to 1,211 acres, and it climbed to 3,077 acres in 1923.[64]

The spread of tobacco culture to Lee County owed much to the influx of flue-cure tobacco farmers from other sections of the state. These farmers came principally from the northwestern Piedmont counties of Surry and Yadkin, but others moved in from the tobacco counties to the east. Participants in the Piedmont emigration are unanimous in their explanation for the move: Lee County's sandy and readily fertilized soil was easier to cultivate than the rocky soil of their home counties.

An early Surry County emigrant, H. A. Matthews, purchased 1,153 acres in the Lemon Springs area in 1908.[65] In 1914, Matthews received a delegation of Surry farmers who were "prospecting with a view to purchasing land." Impressed by Matthews's tobacco crop, they were persuaded to make the move to Lee County.[66] The southern quadrant of the county, recently cleared by logging activity, proved particularly attractive, so that some two hundred families from the northwestern Piedmont relocated to the area by the 1920s.[67] Several Sanford businessmen joined in the promotion, and the local press claimed that if more forward-looking individuals helped, "in a few years most of the vacant land in the county would be occupied and developed into good farms" (Fig. 4.17).[68]

According to participants in the migration, the tobacco farmers brought with them their implements and draft animals and even their guano (fertilizer) stockpiles. Women, younger children, and household furniture typically traveled by train to the county, while the men and older boys herded the animals and hauled larger items by wagon. When they arrived in the county, they found that their new neighbors were unfamiliar with tobacco and its cultivation. A story is told by Beulah Matthews, who moved to the Tramway area from Yadkin County in 1918, that illustrates the situation. A little Lee County girl was walking with her grandfather past the Matthewses' tobacco field one day. "Granddad," she asked, looking at the field, "When will the plugs start coming out?"[69]

Tobacco cultivation introduced a whole new range of building types to Lee County farms. Because the county was an extension of the bright-leaf belt, farmers used the flue-cure process for curing their crop, exposing the tobacco leaves to precisely heated air for a set period of time. The curing was carried out in a flue-cure tobacco barn, traditionally a tall, roughly square-plan building with an interior intersected by tier poles. Tobacco strung on sticks that spanned between the tier poles cured in the hot air that rose from floor-level flues. The flues were heated by fires set in stone, concrete, or brick fireboxes at the front corners of the barn. Open-air sheds were often built against one or more sides of a tobacco barn to shelter the men, women, and children who tied the tobacco and tended the curing process, and as storage space for tobacco sticks, farm implements, and the like (Fig. 4.18).

The tobacco farmers who poured into Lee County during the 1910s and 1920s brought with them the traditional log flue-cure barns of the North Carolina Piedmont. Frame construction was also employed, and during the 1930s and 1940s, farmers experimented with the brick tile produced at local brick plants. Critical to tobacco barn design was retention of the heated air that cured the tobacco. Broadway-area farmer Joseph W. Gunter enhanced the efficiency of his frame tobacco barn by giving it a plaster-and-lath interior finish, creating an airtight seal. Con-

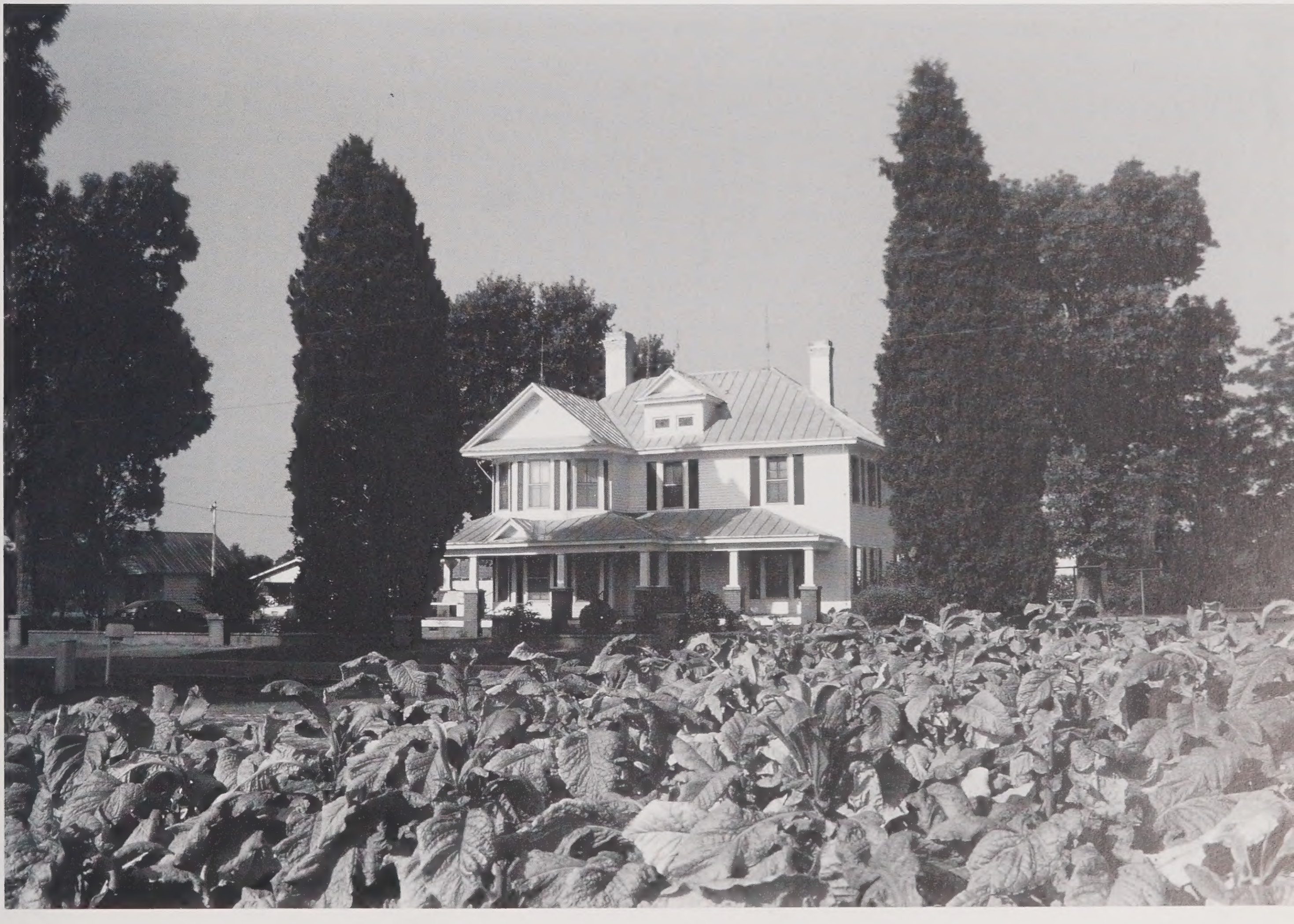


Figure 4.17 Berke Thomas Farm, 309 Berke Thomas Road (SR 1535), Broadway vicinity. Originally a cotton farm, the Thomas Farm converted to tobacco after World War I.

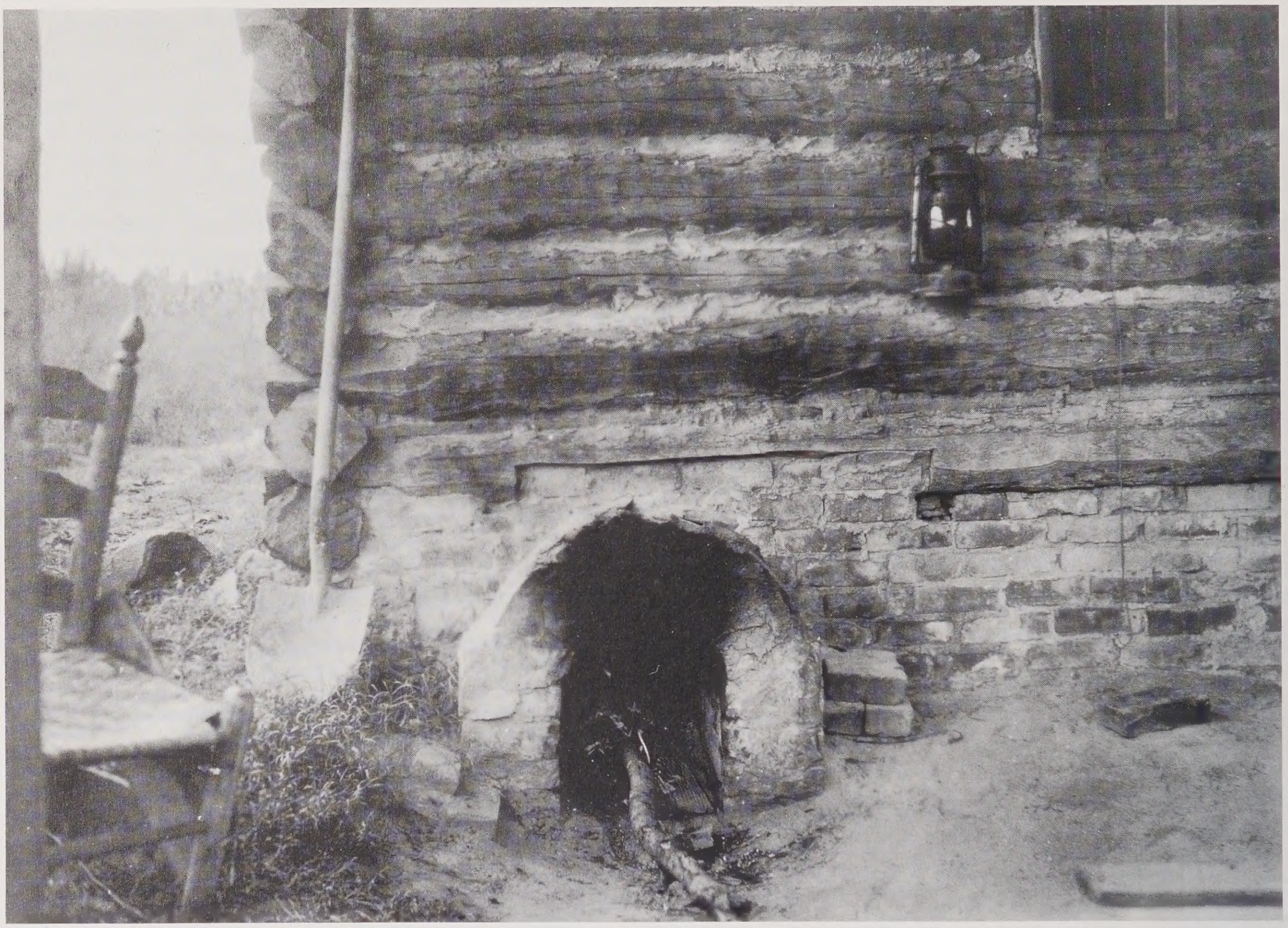


Figure 4.18 Firebox of an unidentified Lee County tobacco barn, ca. 1940. The curing process required round-the-clock tending, and tobacco barns were the scene of evening socializing by farmers and their tenants (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

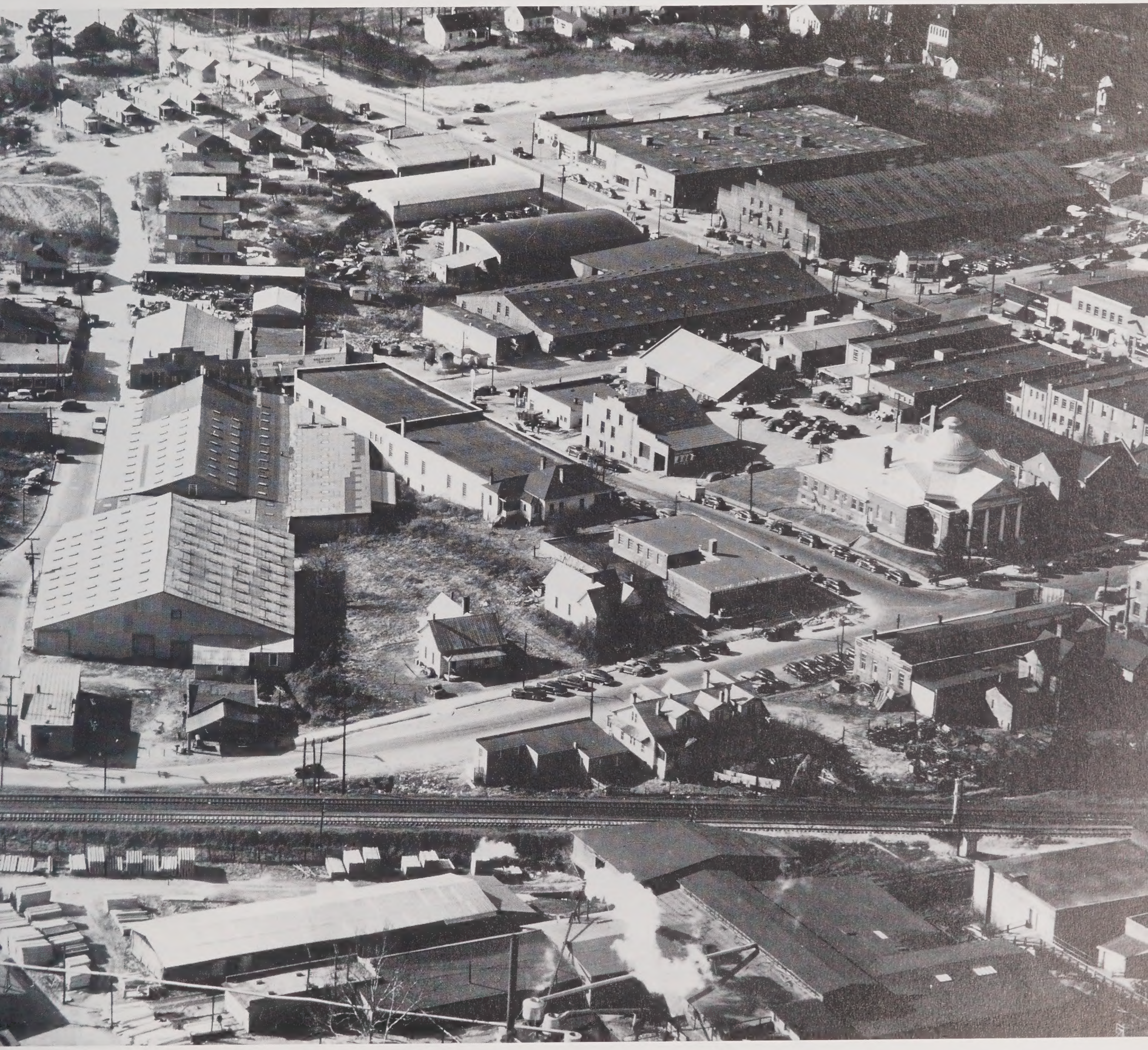
venience was important to Murchisontown-area farmer Robert Pierce; in the mid-twentieth century Pierce built a concrete-block and metal-sided tobacco barn into a bank so that he could access the upper tier poles from ground level.

After curing his one or two "barns" of tobacco, a farmer stored the leaves in a building known as a pack house. Most of the county's pack houses are two-story frame buildings with weatherboard, board-and-batten, tarpaper, or metal siding. They often stand over a cellarlike space called the ordering pit; tobacco was placed in the pit so that moisture from the ground would make the leaves supple enough to handle, a process known as putting the tobacco "in order." Tobacco leaves were also graded, or separated into batches of varying type and quality, before being sent to market. Grading sometimes took place in a specialized building known as a grading house or in a grading room attached to a pack house. Sometimes the process was performed in the open air under a temporary shelter of leafy boughs known as a "brush arbor." Members of the Tempting community graded tobacco under a brush arbor on the Marcelus and Ann Baker Farm during the 1940s. Traditional tobacco-related buildings are still common on local farms, but the introduction of prefabricated metal bulk barns in recent decades will inevitably lead to the disappearance of tobacco barns and pack houses from the Lee County landscape.

In Sanford, a regionally important tobacco warehouse complex developed near the intersection of Wicker Street and Endor Street (present Horner Boulevard). The first warehouse, known as the Sanford Tobacco Market, was erected in 1915 by farm supply merchants L. P. Wilkins and Buck Ricks, who hired Danville, Virginia warehouseman J. R. Hutchings as their manager.[70] The Sanford Tobacco Market and the warehouses that followed were sprawling frame or brick structures with wide entryways through which farmers drove their tobacco-laden wagons onto the selling floors (Fig. 4.19).

The tobacco revolution in the Lee County countryside set off an unprecedented boom in Sanford. Christmas 1923 proved miraculous for Sanford retailers, as local farm families, flush with tobacco money from a run of good years, rolled into town in newly acquired automobiles and bought everything in sight. Buoyed with enthusiasm, the business community claimed that

Figure 4.19 Sanford's tobacco warehouse district on Horner Boulevard in the 1950s. The warehouses are the large gabled buildings with multiple skylights.



1924 would "surpass any year in the history of Sanford in growth and development . . . Sanford is going to be one of the first cities in the state."[71]

There were additional reasons for New Year's optimism. Road crews had nearly completed a Sanford-vicinity section of US 1, the "National Highway," prompting one business leader to declare Sanford "the best distributing point in North Carolina from the standpoint of both railways and highways."[72] A new and thriving brick industry at the nearby community of Colon meant more jobs and more money pumped into the local economy. The Sanford-based Edwards Railway Motor Car Company was poised for a national expansion; the innovative firm captured 37 percent of national market share in the sale of gasoline-powered railway cars during 1923, and in March 1924 it opened sales offices in New York, Washington, and Chicago.[73] Major downtown building projects were announced on an almost weekly basis. When the local press warned that "parking room for automobiles will soon be at a premium in the business section," it was clear that Sanford was on the make.[74]

The new prosperity transformed the appearance of Sanford's downtown (Fig. 4.20). For the first half century of growth, commercial development focused on the streets fronting the railroad, Chatham Street on the east side and South Moore Street on the west. In 1914, the Wilkins-Ricks Company went outside this congested area, building a substantial brick store on South Steele Street, one block removed from the smoke and grit of the railroad. When the boom began, the business community followed the Wilkins-Ricks lead and shifted its attention to underdeveloped lots on Steele and Carthage streets.

In January 1924, the Sanford Masons unveiled plans for the construction of a three-story Masonic Temple on the north corner of Carthage and Steele. The "magnificent monument to Masonry," with stores on the street level, professional offices on the second story, and a "beautiful, attractive and most inviting" meeting hall on the top story, was dedicated September 18, 1925.[75] As the Masonic Temple neared completion, the Lee Furniture Company announced plans to construct a five-story showroom and office block on the south corner of Steele and Carthage.[76] But the most ambitious project of the period was the Hotel Wilrik (Fig. 4.21). The Wilkins-Ricks Company began construction work on the six-story brick- and limestone-faced "sky scraper" in May 1924. By fall the reinforced concrete frame was up, inspiring accolades from the local press. "The stockholders of this hotel merit and receive the applause of the public for their vision and their manifestation of faith in the community. What they are doing will do more to put Sanford on the map than anything that has ever happened in the community."[77]

The Hotel Wilrik and the equally grand Carolina Hotel, which joined it downtown in the late 1920s, catered to the travelers who streamed through Sanford on their seasonal migrations to and from Florida. The town's hotels had benefited from the trade of rail passengers since the late nineteenth century. With the construction of US 1, Sanford became a popular stopover for an ever-growing number of motorists. Several tourist homes opened in town; among the more stylish was Ida Coulter's at 503 Sunset Drive, one block from US 1 (Carthage Street) in the new McIver Park subdivision. The exotic Mediterranean styling of the Coulter tourist home related it to other automobile-age architecture in town: service stations with Spanish tile parapets and the Bowen Motor Company dealership at 234 Carthage Street, with its terra-cotta accents and fanciful parapets that distantly recalled the architecture of the California missions and, more to the point, fashionable hotels in Miami and St. Petersburg.

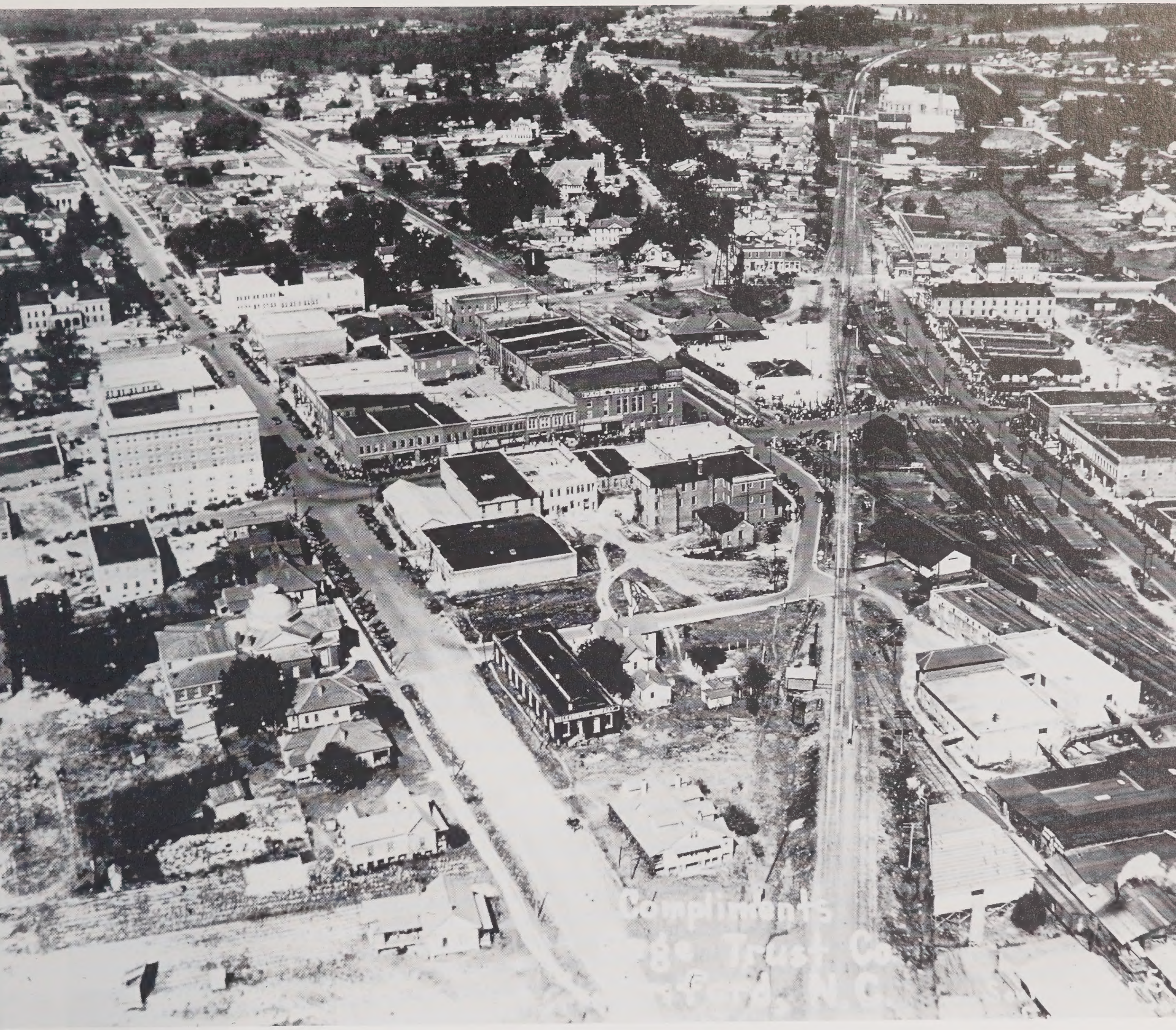


Figure 4.20 Aerial view of downtown Sanford at the height of the 1920s boom, July 4, 1925. View looking north along Steele Street and Seaboard Coastline tracks.

Mediterranean-style residences like the Coulter tourist home and the even more flamboyant William R. Makepeace House on Hawkins Avenue (demolished) were the products of a new wave of experimentation in the domestic architecture of the period (Fig. 4.22). The cozy house form popularly known as the bungalow made its first local appearance in Sanford's Rosemont neighborhood during the 1910s. Typically detailed with decorative windowpanes, gable brackets, and other Craftsman-style touches, the one-story or story-and-a-half bungalow appealed to those with progressive tastes but limited budgets. Related to the bungalow was the Foursquare, a boxy, two-story house that usually featured a hip roof with one or more dormers. Homebuilders in Sanford, Jonesboro, Broadway, and the county's smaller communities snipped

Figure 4.21 Period advertisement for the Hotel Wilrik (1924–25), 200 Wicker Street, Sanford

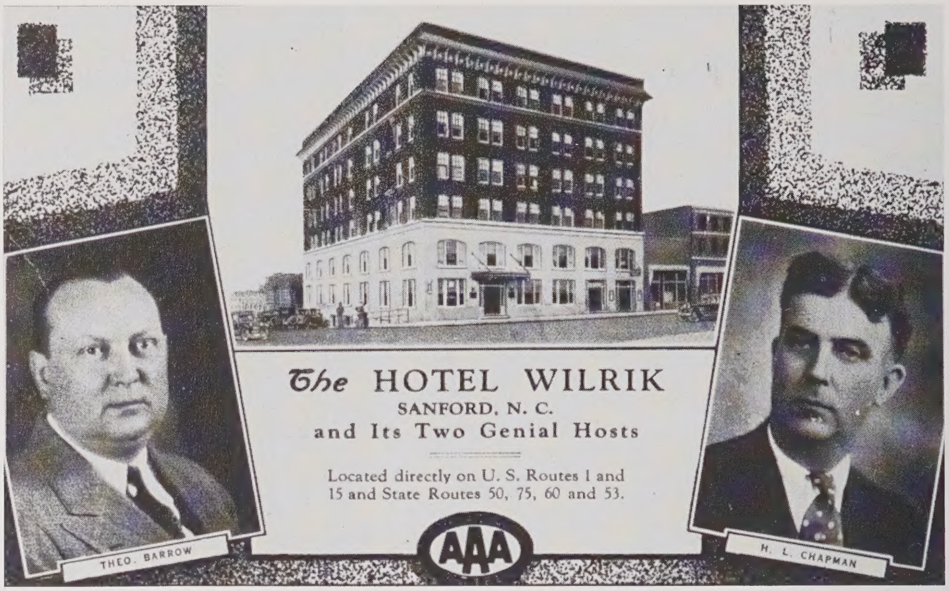


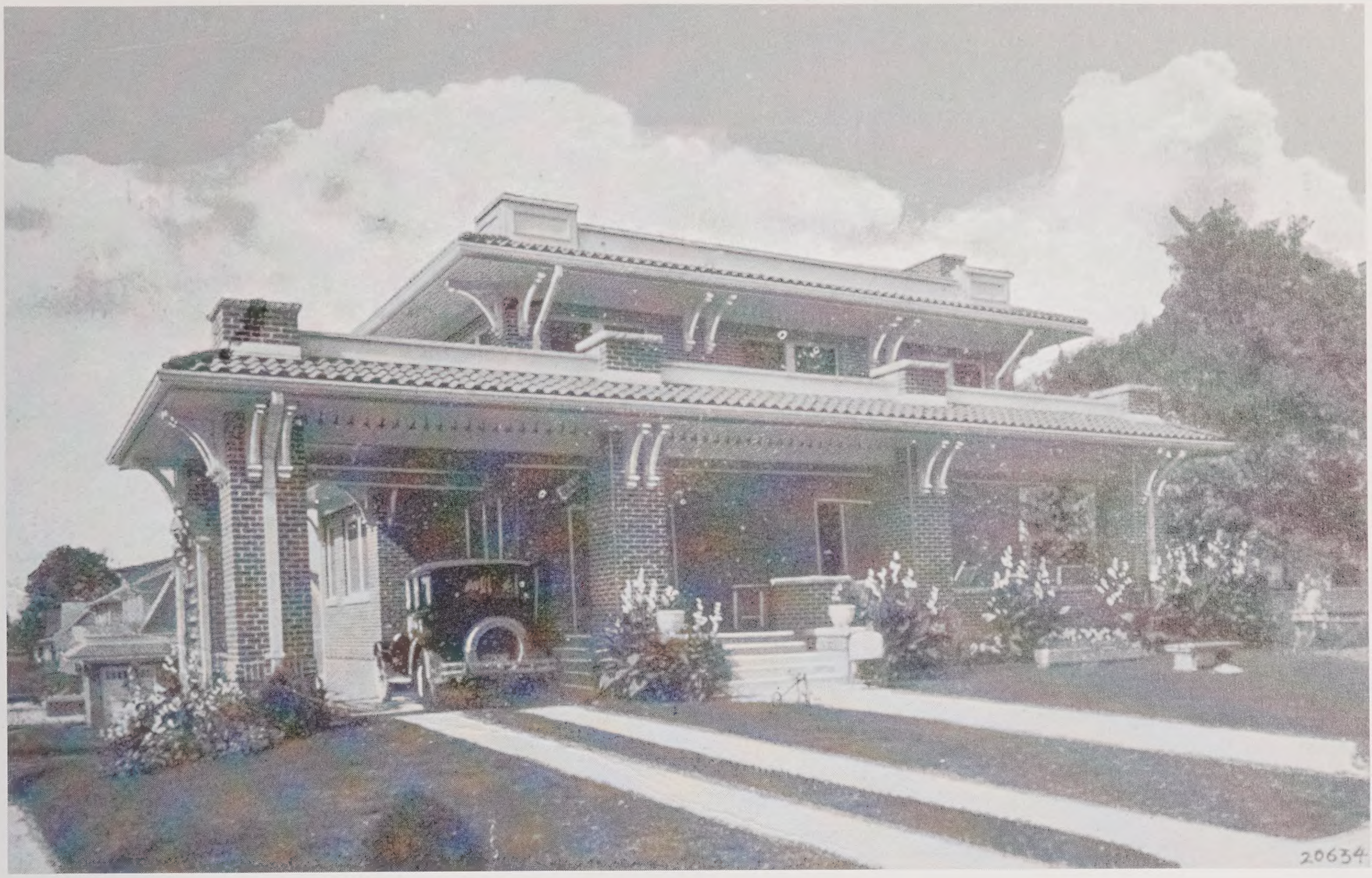
Figure 4.22 (opposite, above) 1920s architectural exoticism: the Mediterranean-influenced W. R. Makepeace House (ca. 1925), Hawkins Avenue (demolished). The Makepeace House was used as a tourist home. (Courtesy of Roy Jernigan)

bungalow and Foursquare plans out of magazines or wrote away for plans. Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and other mail-order firms sold the houses as kits, complete down to door hardware and mantelpieces (Fig. 4.23).

In Sanford, bungalows, foursquares, and eclectic houses now known collectively as "period cottages" filled vacant lots in the town's older residential neighborhoods and dominated the two trend-setting subdivisions of the period: McIver Park and McCracken Heights. The developers of these neighborhoods utilized natural topography to create winding lanes and sweeping vistas. McIver Park's Sunset Drive, for example, traces a gentle S-curve with house lots on one side and a landscaped park, stream, and wooded bluff on the other. At the entrances to McIver Park, developers Cross & Brinn erected gateposts of granite and brick. The first houses appeared in 1924 and included the Frank Clegg residence, built by the Jewell-Riddle Company; the Vesper Brown House, built by its contractor/owner; and developer T. S. Cross's own house, a brick and half-timbered bungalow at the north corner of Vance and Summit.[78]

The other novel development, McCracken Heights, was the pet project of Sanford dentist Frank Webb McCracken. In 1914, McCracken purchased an eighty-six-acre farm on Hawkins Avenue (US 1), north of town.[79] Eleven years later, he hired the engineering firm of Poole & Cooke to lay out curving streets on the property and in the late 1920s began to market lots. Sanford architect L. M. Thompson and his wife Margaret bought a lot in 1929 and built the first house in the development, a picturesque brick and half-timbered Tudor Revival residence.[80] McCracken's own residence, a brick Craftsman-style house, stands at one of the development's entrances on Hawkins Avenue (Fig. 4.24). A boating lake was in place by 1932, and McCracken considered putting in a golf course.[81] Home construction fell off during the Depression of the 1930s, but the subdivision continued to attract new homebuilders in the years following World War II. In 1973, older residents of McCracken Heights referred to it as "a separate and special place which should be treated with pride and respect."[82]

The communities of Cumnock and Colon shared in the prosperity enjoyed by Sanford during the 1920s, although for different reasons. Sanford thrived on the vigor of its diversified



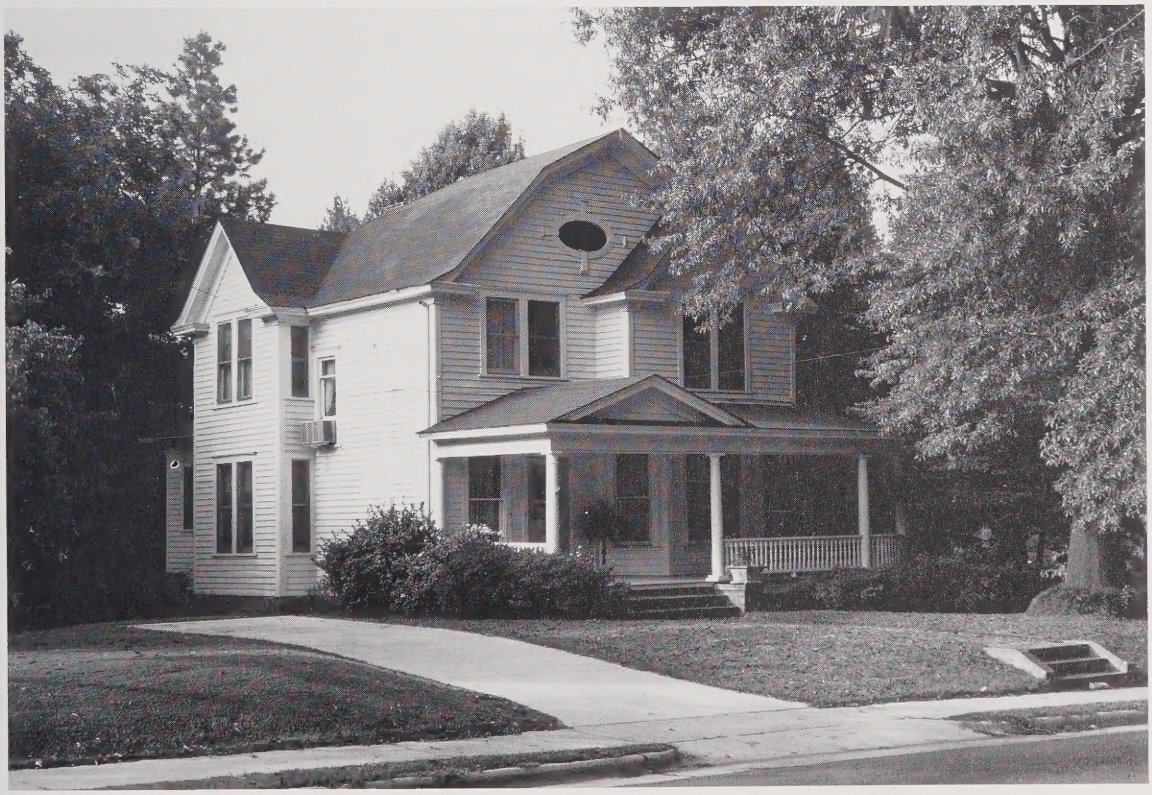


Figure 4.23 James C. Williams House (Henry Poe House) (1910), 306 West Weatherspoon Street, Sanford. The Williams House is an early example of a Lee County dwelling built from published plans. Nearly identical houses were built elsewhere in the South during the early twentieth century.

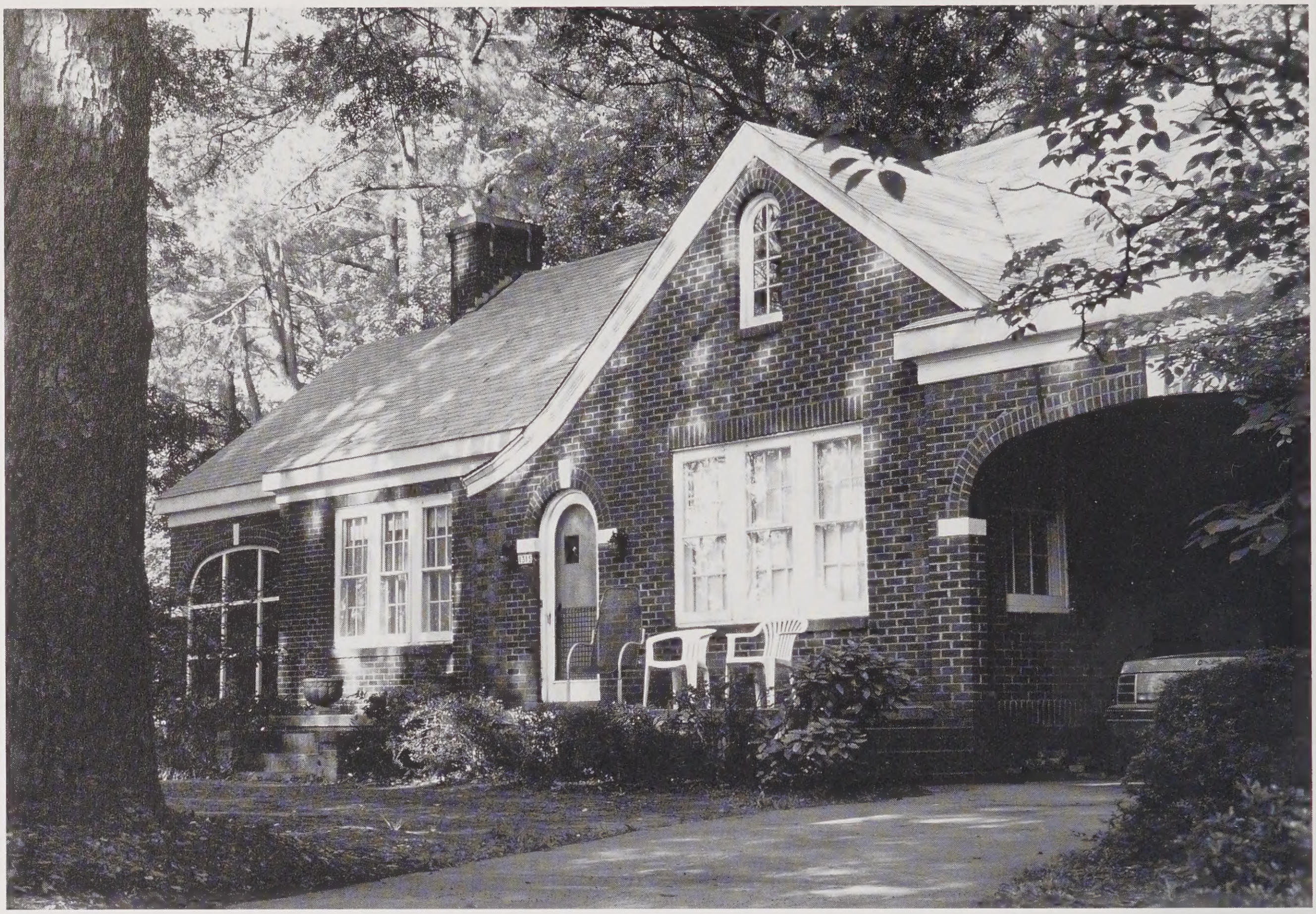


Figure 4.24
F. W. McCracken House (ca. 1930), 1315 Hawkins Avenue, Sanford

industries, and as the commercial hub for an agricultural hinterland transformed by tobacco; Cumnock and Colon's fortunes hinged on the success of their single industries—coal mining at Cumnock and brickmaking at Colon. When the stock market crash of October 1929 plunged the national economy into a decade-long depression, all three communities suffered, Cumnock most of all. Lee County farms also felt the ill effects of the Great Depression and the agricultural depression that preceded it.

Mining resumed at Cumnock in the late 1910s after over a decade of inactivity. A new operation, the Cumnock Coal Company, was created as a subsidiary of the Norfolk Southern Railroad, which became the principal user of Cumnock coal. By February 1918, Norfolk Southern's complex consisted of the main shaft head and an adjacent engine room, a repair shop, an oil house, and a bathhouse for the miners (Fig. 4.25).[83] According to some accounts, the Cumnock Coal Company was preceded by a firm known as the Egypt Improvement Company, incorporated in 1912 by John H. Kennedy of Cumnock and local and Philadelphia investors. In 1936, Kennedy claimed that his company was the one that "opened the mines and began operating them" after 1917.[84]

In September 1922, the Erskine-Ramsey Coal Company of Birmingham, Alabama, purchased the mine, and production soon reached record levels: 166 tons were mined in one sixteen-hour day.[85] Erskine-Ramsey erected new structures at the mine, including several rows of one-story frame miner houses, referred to by area residents as Red Town, Frog Town, and Black Town

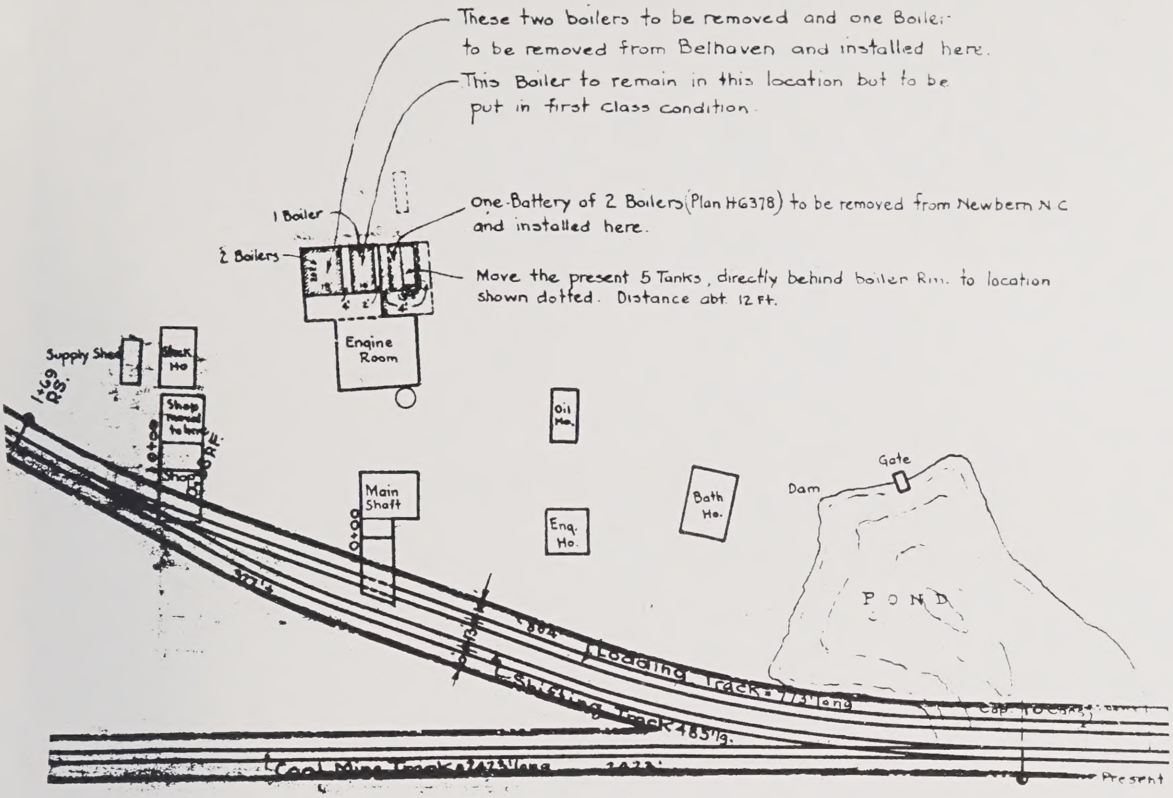

These two boilers to be removed and one Boiler to be removed from Belhaven and installed here.
This Boiler to remain in this location but to be put in first class condition.
One Battery of 2 Boilers (Plan H6378) to be removed from Newbern N.C. and installed here.
Move the present 5 Tanks, directly behind boiler Rm. to location shown dotted. Distance abt. 12 Ft.
1 Boiler
2 Boilers
Engine Room
Supply Shed
Black Ho
Shop
Main Shaft
Oil Ho.
Eng. Ho.
Bath Ho.
Dam
Gate
POND
Loading Track = 773' long
Switching Track 485' lg.
Coal Mine Track
Present

Figure 4.25
"Norfolk Southern R.R. Operating Layout, Cumnock Mines." This February 1918 drawing shows improvements planned at the Cumnock coal mine. North is to the left.

(Figs. 4.26 through 4.30).[86] Development also occurred in the community of Cumnock itself, as mine managers, merchants, and others lined Cumnock Road (SR 1400) with Craftsman bungalows, Foursquares, and other popular house forms of the period. About the time the Erskine-Ramsey company began at Cumnock, the Carolina Coal Company commenced operations on the Chatham County side of the Deep River at Coal Glen. The Carolina Coal Company was controlled by John R. McQueen of Moore County and others who acquired the Cumnock mine in 1927.[87]

On May 27, 1925, the Coal Glen Mine experienced the worst recorded disaster in the history of the Deep River Coal Field, when an explosion and cave-in claimed fifty-three lives.[88] Two years later, an explosion at the Cumnock mine killed two miners.[89] These explosions, along with flooding of mine shafts by the Deep River and disruptions occasioned by the Great Depression, forced the mines to close around 1930.[90] In 1933, the Sanford-based North Carolina Coal Mining Corporation tried unsuccessfully to interest the state in buying the mines.[91] Mining may have resumed to a limited extent later in the 1930s, but for all intents and purposes, the county's coal mining history had come to a close.[92]

Commercial brickmaking, eventually to become one of the county's leading industries, expanded during the early twentieth century. In 1910, the county's largest plant was the Jonesboro Brick Company, headed by banker A. W. Huntley. The failure of this enterprise in the early 1910s is believed to have caused the failure of the Bank of Jonesboro, of which Huntley was an officer. (Both the brick company and the bank disappear from period business directories in 1913.)[93] In the tradition of the black-owned brickyards of the late 1800s, the Goldston Brick Company operated a brickyard at the foot of the Norfolk Southern Deep River Bridge in Cumnock before 1929.[94]

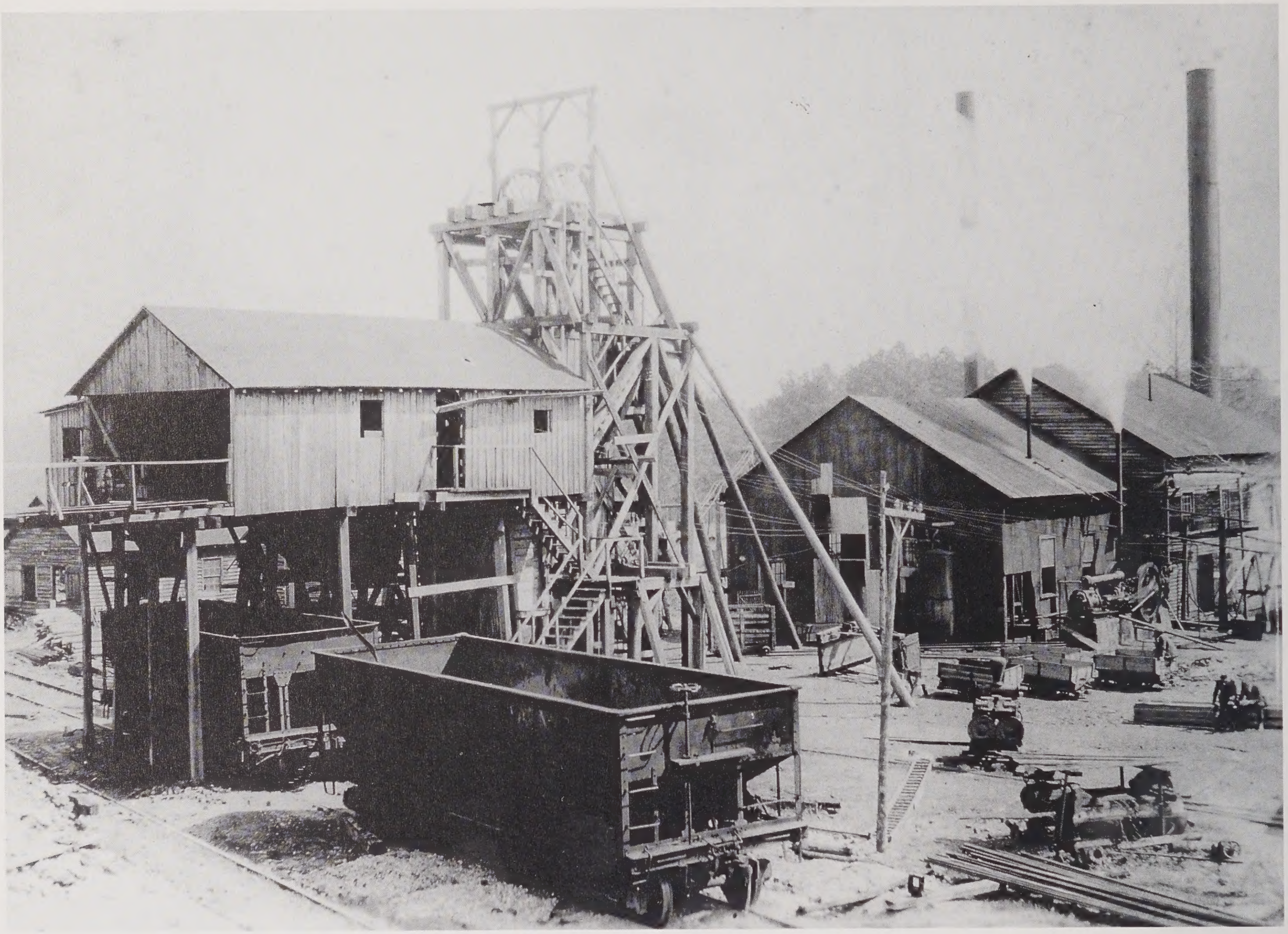
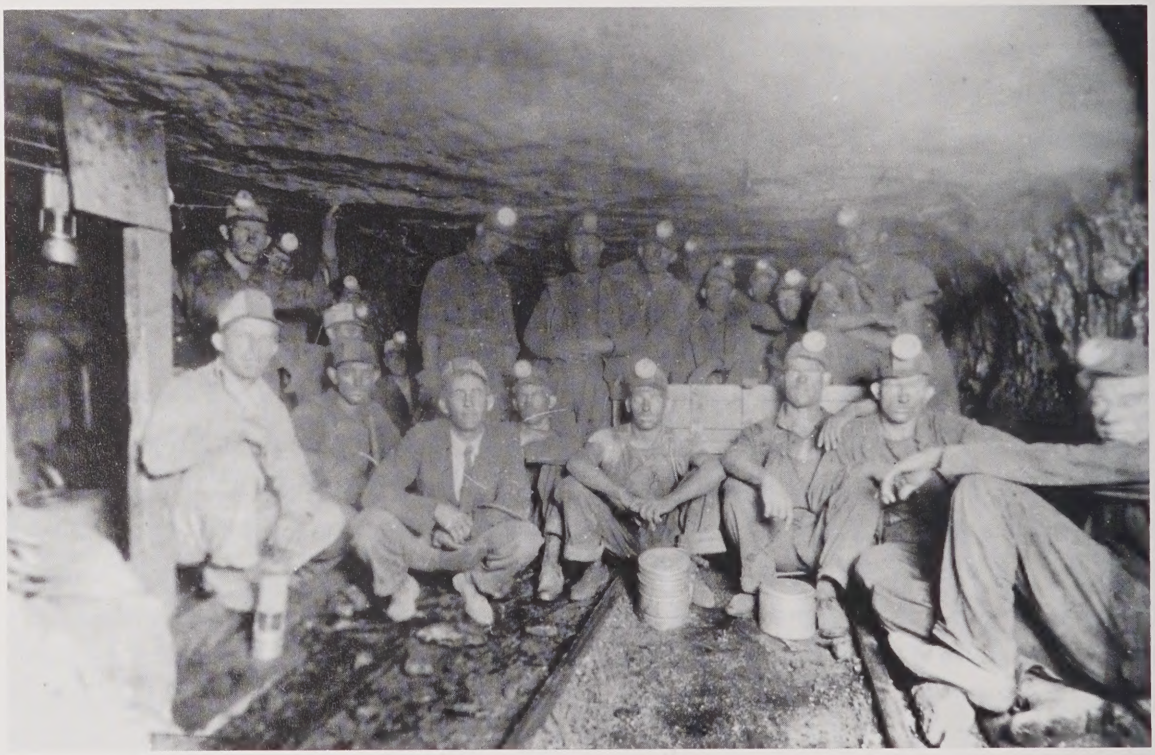


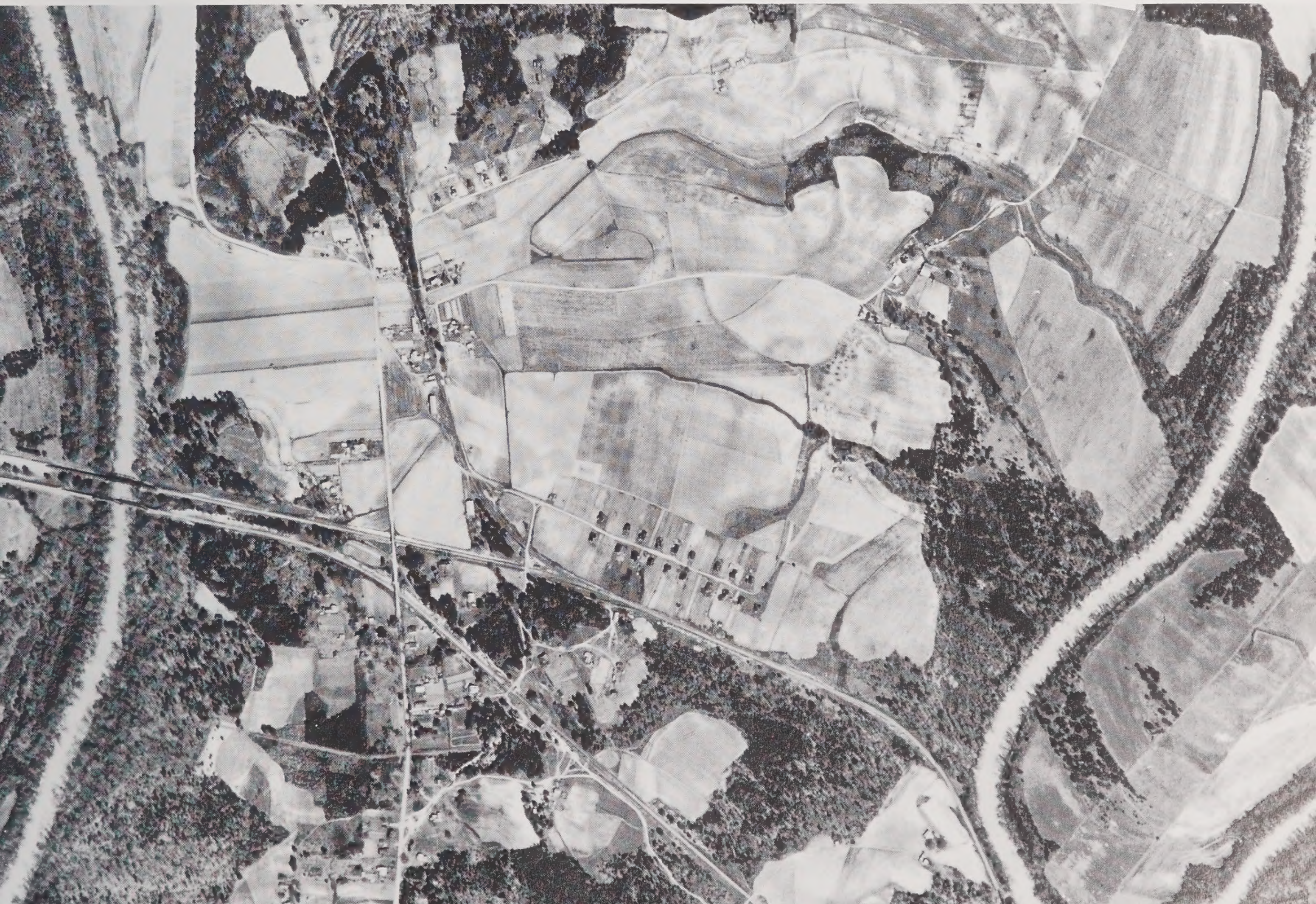
Figure 4.26
The Cumnock coal mine in the 1920s



Figures 4.27, 4.28
Cumnock coal miners

Figure 4.29
Miner housing is clearly visible in this 1938 aerial view of Cumnock. Near the center of the photo is the row of houses known as Red Town. Another, smaller row appears to the north-northwest. (North is toward

the top of the photo.) The mine itself is located left of center at the top of the view, and the village of Cumnock is located left of center at the bottom. The Deep River loops around the area on each side. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



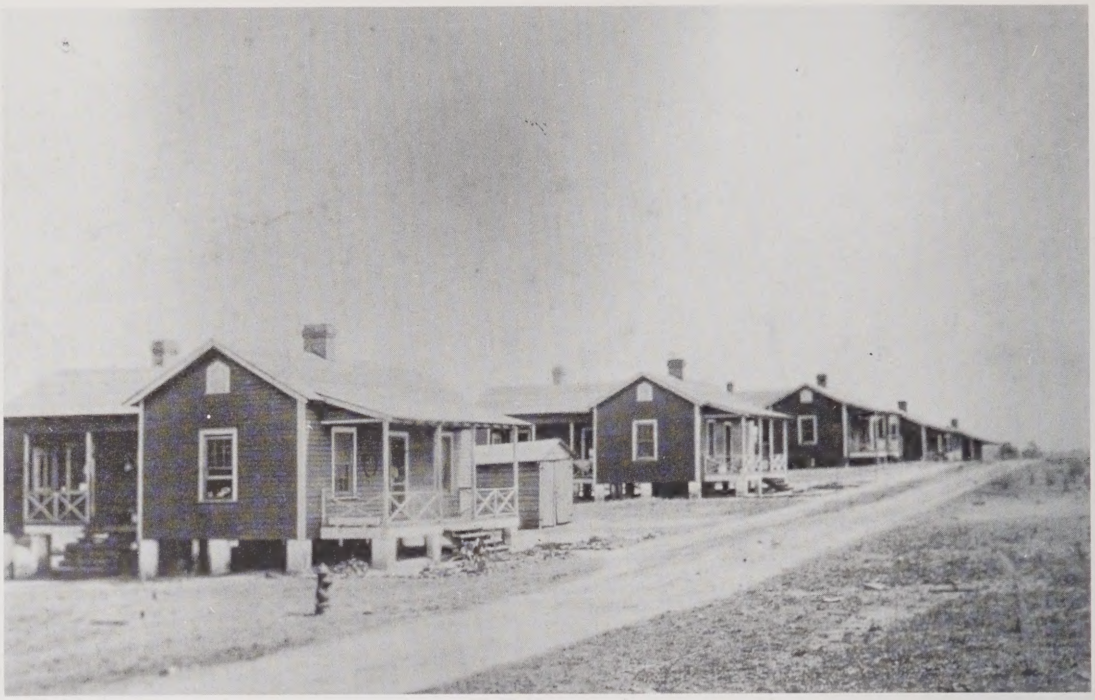


Figure 4.30 Red Town, Cumnock (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

Around 1920, brick manufacturers focused their attention on the depot village of Colon, several miles northeast of Sanford. Abundant deposits of clay and shale, ideal for making durable shale brick, extended under the village, and its location astride rail lines leading to the state's major cities made it a prime shipping point. In the late 1910s, Rowan County brick manufacturer Lewis Calvin Isenhour passed through Colon on a business trip and immediately recognized the community's potential for large-scale brick production. In 1919 or 1920, Isenhour opened a brick plant (later known as the Little Plant) with ten round "beehive" kilns and a capacity of 25,000 bricks, manned by twenty to thirty workers. Isenhour opened a second plant with fifteen more beehive kilns in 1925 or 1926. By the end of the 1920s, the Isenhour complex produced over 20 million bricks per year, many of which went toward the construction of the U.S. army's Fort Bragg, located near Fayetteville.[95]

In 1925, a group of Goldsboro brick manufacturers held a ground-breaking for another Lee County brick plant, the Borden Brick & Tile Company. Located along the Seaboard line between Sanford and Colon, the facility soon featured nine or ten beehive kilns, a coal elevator, and plants for crushing shale and shaping bricks (Fig. 4.31). Borden's work force numbered between seventy-five and one hundred employees.[96] Meanwhile, at Colon, two other brick plants had jointed Isenhour: the Sanford Brick & Tile Company and the Shale Brick Company. The latter built ten round beehive kilns and a commissary that issued its own scrip. Individuals involved in these early plants included Thomas C. and John P. Dalrymple, Frank R. and W. E. Snipes, and R. E. Marks.[97]

The Sanford Brick & Tile Company and the Shale Brick Company did not last long. L. C. Isenhour and his son Lewis D. Isenhour acquired the former in 1930, and in the late 1930s they absorbed the latter (both plants had been idled by the Depression).[98] The Isenhours decided to assume the name of the Sanford Brick & Tile Company in order to enhance their local identity

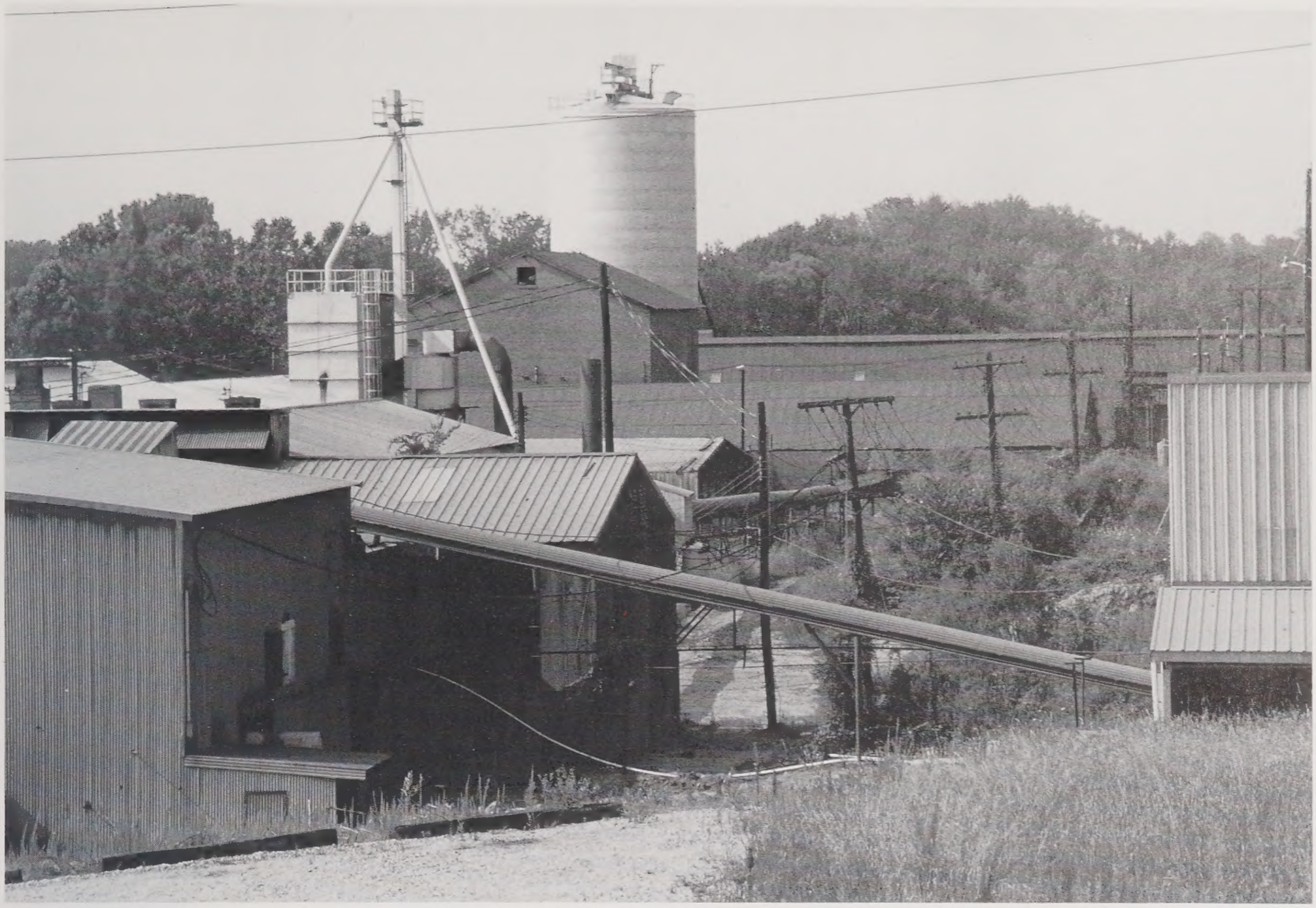


Figure 4.31 Borden Brick & Tile Company Plant (now part of Cherokee Sanford Group, Inc.), Colon Road (SR 1415), Sanford vicinity

and to avoid confusion with the progenitor Isenhour brick plant at Spencer.[99] During the worst years of the Depression, the Isenhour plants managed to operate at approximately 75 percent of capacity. Conditions improved by 1935, and in 1936, the plants employed approximately 150 workers during periods of peak production and turned out 40 million bricks per year. Nine out of ten new post offices constructed in North Carolina and Virginia during the mid-1930s were said to have been built with Isenhour brick.[100]

Lee County clay deposits provided the basis for another small but high-profile industry during the 1920s and 1930s, when local entrepreneurs established art potteries. (Earlier, the Jonesboro Pottery Company of William Henry Hancock [1845–1924], located at either Jonesboro or Longstreet, turned out wares intended for everyday use.)[101] Tourists rather than farmwives provided the market for Lee County's twentieth-century potters. The first of the new potteries was the brainchild of Rebecca Palmer Cooper, a hobbyist who in 1924 established the North State Pottery at her farm near Carbonton. By 1925, the pottery produced 350 different designs and had attracted the attention of the State Museum of Natural History, which was planning an exhibit on North Carolina pottery. At the state fair in Raleigh that year, Cooper and her husband/partner, Henry Alexander Cooper, displayed over a thousand orange, gold, and brown-glazed pieces, of which all but fifteen sold.[102] The next year the Coopers presented their work at the Sesqui-Centennial International Exposition in Philadelphia, where North State received a silver medal in the "Old Fashioned Pottery" category. The Coopers constructed a rustic log sales cabin to retail their wares to local customers, tourists, and the "winter sojourners of Southern Pines and Pinehurst" (Fig. 4.32).[103] In its wares and architecture, North State Pottery cultivated an old-timey image that contrasted with the modern attributes of the firm, such as mass marketing and the reported contribution of a North Carolina State University ceramic engineer in the formulation of glazes.[104] In 1959 or 1960, the North State Pottery was acquired by Walter Owen and operated as the Pine State Pottery for a number of years before closing.[105]

The county gained a second art pottery in 1928 with the establishment of the Rainbow Pottery. In 1936, Rainbow was apparently owned by M. S. Leverett, whose potters produced wares of "ancient classical origin," using a "scientific process of glazing and burning."[106] Randolph County native Arthur Ray Cole came to Lee County to work for Leverett, but he soon established his own pottery on US 1 north of Sanford (Fig. 4.33). In 1939, the A. R. Cole Pottery produced seven hundred pieces a week; most were shipped to Florida and to northern markets, but some were sold to the tourists who passed by the pottery on their springtime return trips from Florida.[107] Descendants of A. R. Cole continue to operate the Cole Pottery near its original location, and an offshoot—North Cole Pottery—has been established on North Horner Boulevard in Sanford.

Another innovative county industry of the 1920s and 1930s was the Edwards Railway Motor Car Company. The firm was organized in 1921, but the first development work toward the manufacture of a gasoline-powered railway car was undertaken by Atlantic & Western Railroad president Harry P. Edwards in 1916. "The first Edwards motor car looked more like an old school truck than like a railroad car," according to the *Sanford Express*. Edwards experimented with early models on the A&W line, and passengers in Sanford, Jonesboro, and Broadway came

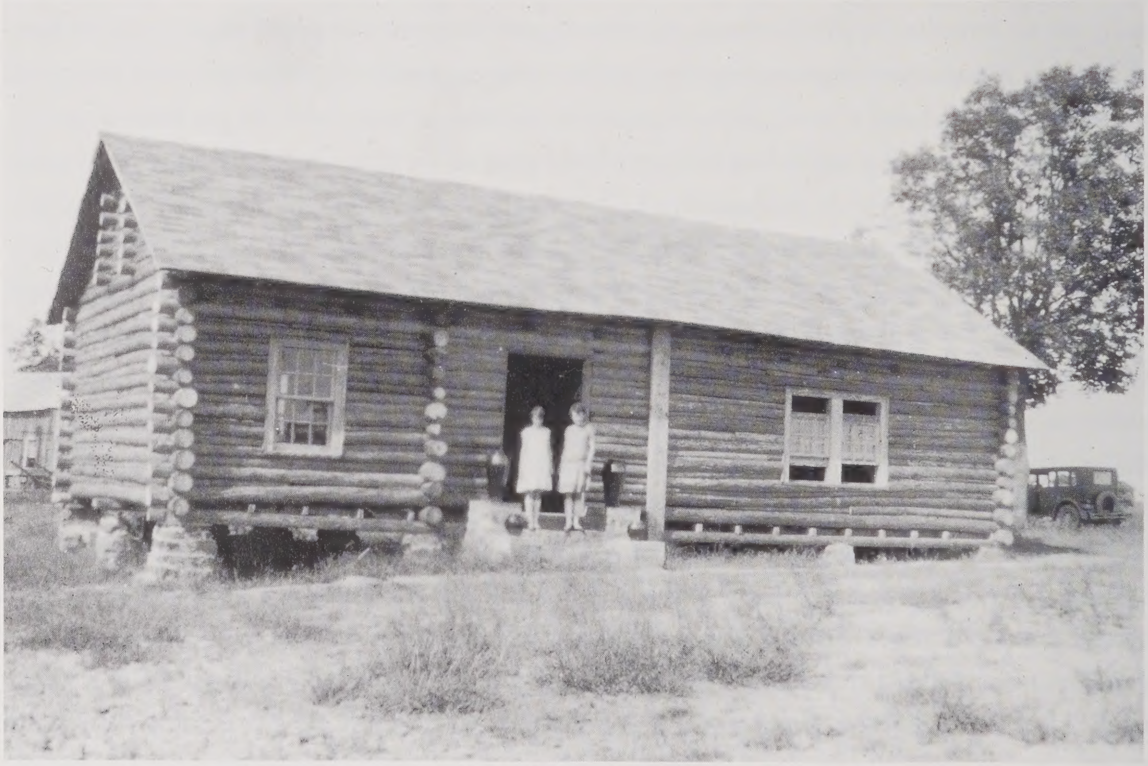
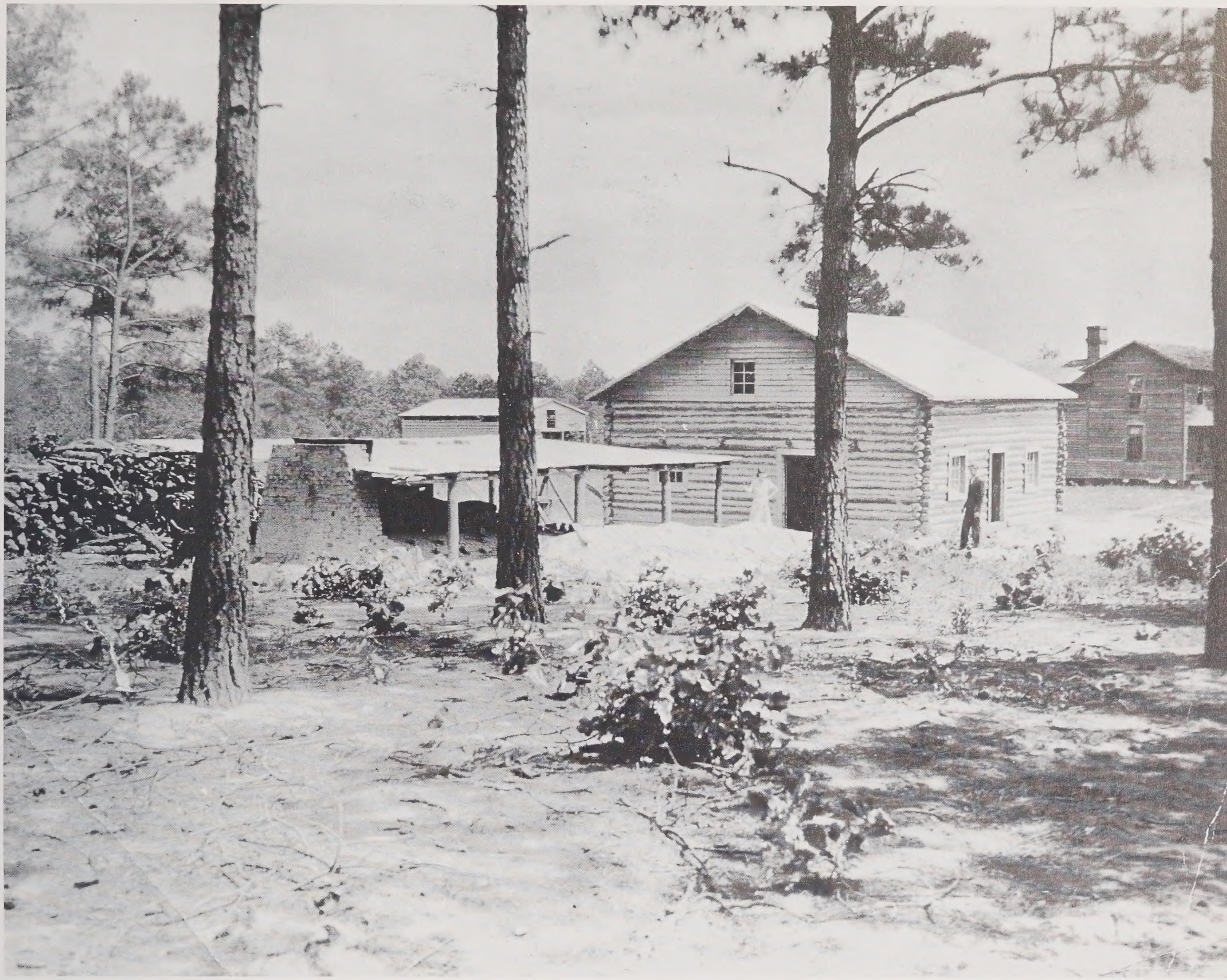


Figure 4.32 North State Pottery sales cabin, intersection of Carbonton Road (NC 42) and North Plank Road (SR 1007), Carbonton vicinity (demolished) (Photo late 1920s, courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)



to refer to car as the "Dinky." The Baltimore & Ohio was the first line other than the A&W to use one of the cars, in 1920.[108] In 1921 and 1922, the company assembled its cars from parts made by other manufacturers, but in 1922–23 it erected an assembly plant on Rose Street and began building cars from scratch. The redesigned cars measured up to thirty-two feet in length, with seating for forty passengers, and they could be operated with a trailer car that accommodated thirty-six additional passengers. By February 1924, twenty-three Edwards cars were in operation on various lines, and thirty employees worked for the company.[109] In 1925, Edwards developed a twin-engine car and sold ten, at $25,000 each, to the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad.[110] By 1933, the company employed 150 workers and had sold its cars to forty-four railroads in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Panama, Colombia, and Argentina (Fig. 4.34).[111]

Figure 4.33
A. R. Cole Pottery kiln, sales cabin, and dwelling on US 15-501 north of Sanford (demolished), photo ca. 1940

The Edwards company prospered during the depression decade of the 1930s, as did the art potteries and the Colon brick industry, the latter aided by government contracts. Not so lucky were the county's industrial and agricultural workers. In the 1920s, a labor surplus worked

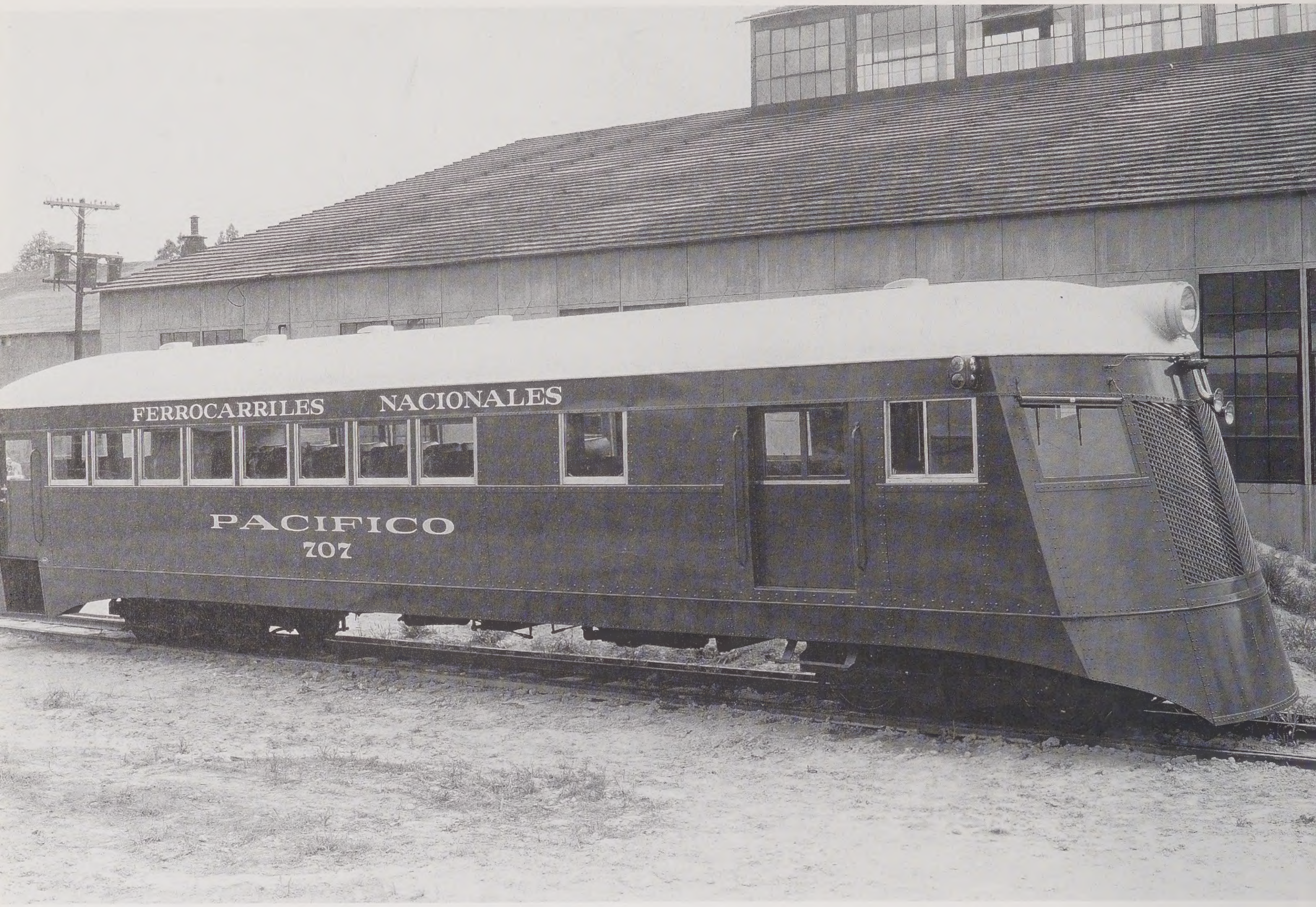


Figure 4.34 An Edwards Motor Car Company railway car destined for Latin America, photo ca. 1940

against unionization, and the county's factory workers were ill-equipped to deal with the hard times that followed the 1929 crash.[112] Local industries tightened their belts, and wage reductions and plant shutdowns strained relations between management and workers. In September 1932, a survey by county agent E. O. McMahan counted 306 unemployed workmen and artisans, and almost 500 men and boys eager to do government-sponsored road work.[113] Unemployment was aggravated by the "army of vagabonds" that tramped into the area from the North in a grim parody of the 1920s tourist throng.[114]

The Sanford Cotton Mills plant was more successful than most in dealing with the hard times. The mill had spent years cultivating the good will of its employees; as early as 1908 it had hosted parties for the younger operatives, and in the 1930s it distributed food at Christmas and established a night school with courses in mill arithmetic.[115] When a nationwide textile workers strike was called in 1934, only a dozen Sanford operatives responded. "In recognition of the loyalty and cooperation" of its employees during the strike, the management treated them to a barbecue on the mill's baseball grounds. On the subject of employee relations, mill president R. P. Dicks explained, "We understand each other; the labor and the company are sympathetic with each other's problems."[116] Many mill workers did feel loyalty toward their employer, but fear of the consequences of disobedience probably contributed to that loyalty.

The Great Depression and the events leading up to it devastated Lee County farmers. The dramatic expansion in tobacco acreage during the 1910s and early 1920s leveled off: land devoted to the crop increased only slightly, from 3,077 acres in 1923 to 3,154 acres by 1929.[117] A drop in prices, which grew more severe as the decade progressed, dulled initial enthusiasm. Across the state, tobacco growers blamed warehousemen and other middlemen for the erosion of their income. Locally, forty to fifty farmers joined the Tobacco Co-Operative Marketing Association (organized by county agent McMahan) in the fall and winter of 1923–24 in hopes of effecting a more equitable market system.[118]

What began as a downturn grew into a crisis during the early years of the Depression. In August 1932, as many as one-half of the county's tobacco barns stood empty; farmers left fields unplanted as prices fell below the cost of production.[119] Farm tenants (45.7 percent of Lee County farms were operated by tenants in 1935) were especially hard hit.[120] Banks closed, foreclosures escalated, and a drop in revenues forced the Lee County government to issue scrip in order to meet its financial obligations.[121]

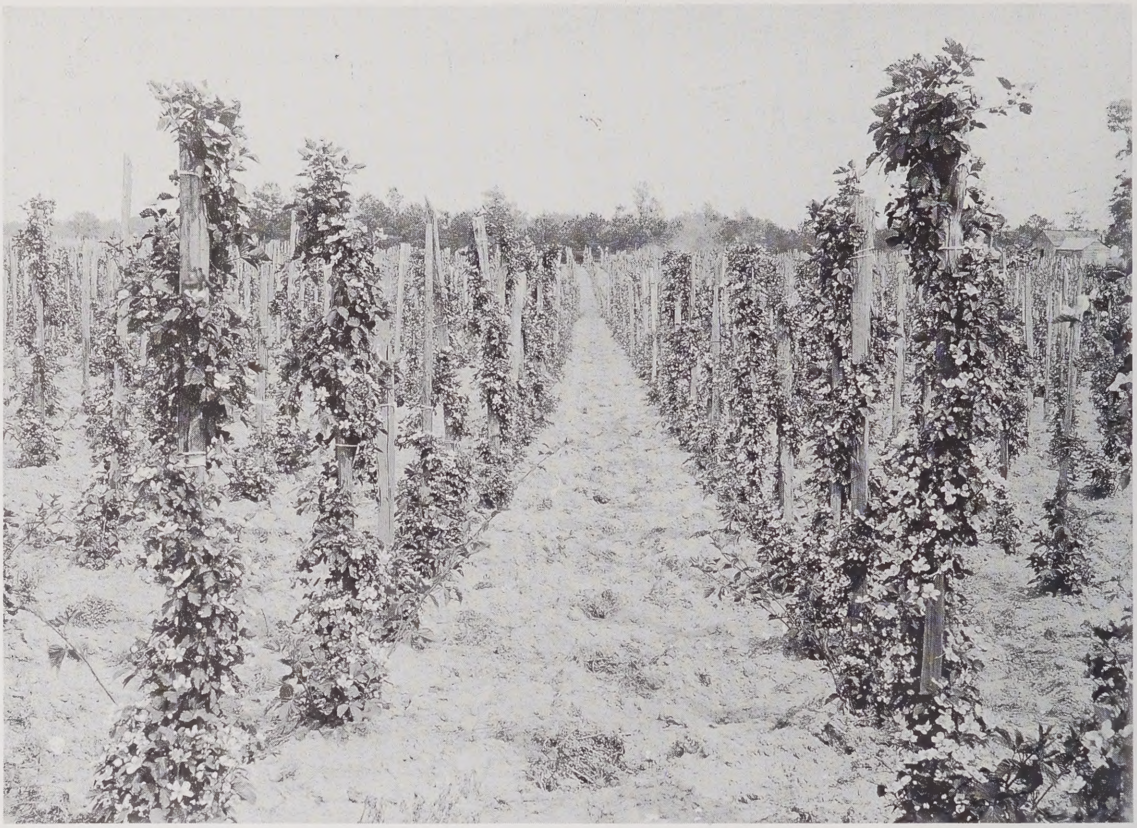
In response to the nationwide tobacco situation, the Roosevelt administration instituted the allotment system, which reduced production in order to raise prices. Prices did climb in 1934, and the local economy began to rebound. One sign of renewed optimism was the construction in 1934 of the Big Sanford Tobacco Warehouse, originally operated by L. B. Hester, Sr., and George T. Hancock.[122] Four Sanford tobacco warehouses opened or returned to operation by 1936. By 1939 Lee County tobacco acreage had more than doubled, to 6,747 acres, an all-time high.[123]

During the 1920s and 1930s, local leaders promoted alternatives to the increasingly problematic cash crops, tobacco and cotton. In January 1924, industrialist and agribusinessman Paul J. Barringer, Sr., urged farmers to raise pecans as a money crop. Barringer predicted that revenue from pecans could rival that from tobacco.[124] Several weeks later, county agent McMahan reiterated Barringer's appeal: "I want 25 farmers to plant 100 pecan trees each with a view to planting 100 trees for four years and organizing a cooperative marketing association."[125] McMahan called in the state's farm forester, who chose Barringer's northern Lee County farm and the James P. McDavid farm near Jonesboro as sites for experimental groves.[126] The McDavid grove still stands along Courtland Drive, and the grove on the Barringer farm remains, although the particular variety of trees planted by Barringer would not produce a satisfactory crop of nuts in the colder northern part of the county.[127]

A decade after the first major push for pecan nut production, Greenwood (Lemon Springs) High School's vocational-agricultural instructor, L. F. Meador, promoted the nut in the southern section of the county. Meador and his students set out hundreds of pecan trees, charging farmers one dollar per tree. Lemon Springs–area farmer John Garner became so interested in pecans that he drove to Georgia to pick up trees to sell locally.[128] Several large pecan groves in the sandy southern part of the county date from this period. Lee County farmers were part of a trend, as commercial pecan production moved out of the Lower Mississippi Basin (the heart of the tree's natural range) into North Carolina during the early twentieth century.[129]

Fruit and berry cultivation represented another agricultural alternative. In 1921, agribusiness-

Figure 4.35 Roscoe E. Carrington dewberry farm, Dalrymple Park/Harkey Road area, Jonesboro (Photo ca. 1922, courtesy of Elizabeth Carrington O'Connell)



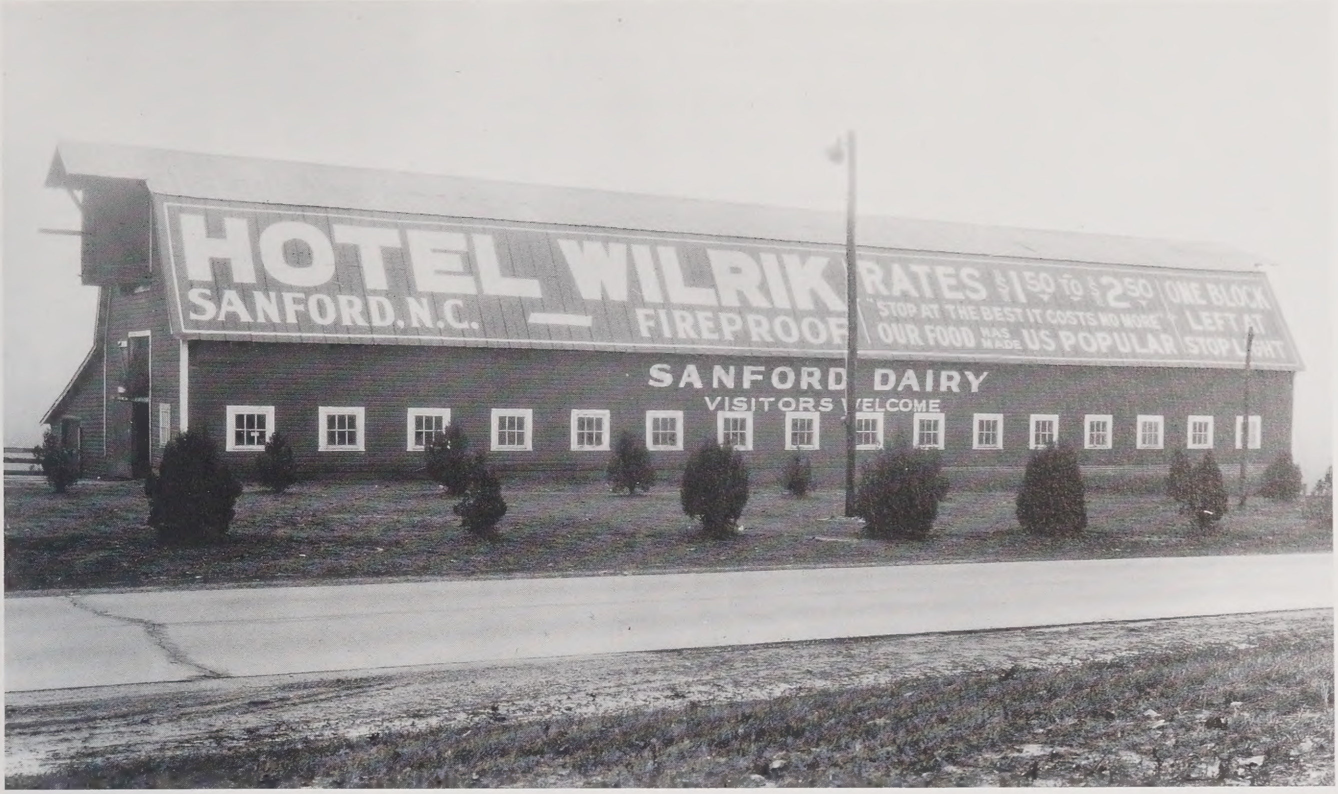
men L. P. Wilkins and Hugh Palmer established the Lemon Heights Peach Farm near Lemon Springs, the "largest and finest peach orchard in the county," with 1,500 Elberta and Georgia Belle trees.[130] The dewberry was another fruit that could be grown successfully (Fig. 4.35). Sion Buchanan operated a large dewberry farm outside Jonesboro at the beginning of the century; later, Duncan Buie and Wade Caldwell grew the berries near Lemon Springs. In 1924, Lee County dewberries were shipped to markets in Washington, D.C., and to a cannery in Aberdeen, and in 1927 the Lucretia variety of dewberry was said to be a money-making crop for hundreds of county farmers.[131]

Figure 4.36 **(above)** Sanford Dairy, one of several large dairies developed in the 1930s (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)

Figure 4.37 **(below)** Fairview Dairies pasteurizing plant and Dairy Bar (1935), 132 McIver Street, Sanford

Dairy farming began in Lee County on a commercial scale during the first half of the twentieth century, stimulated by the road improvements of the period and the growth of urban markets (Fig. 4.36). One of the earliest Grade A dairies was that of New York native Thomas G. Gunn, who operated a 360-acre farm northwest of Sanford and shipped his milk to Raleigh during the 1910s. Other early dairymen included N. H. Arnette, who established his herd in 1909, and W. W. Henley; both farmers touted soil enrichment as one benefit of dairy cow herding.[132] One of the county's largest operations dates to 1927, when Philip C. Yarborough established Fairview Dairies, Inc., near Osgood.[133] Yarborough built a pasteurizing plant on McIver Street in Sanford in 1935 and introduced Fairview Ice Cream, which he retailed at two Dairy Bar outlets (Fig. 4.37).[134] Dairy production peaked in the 1930s, when nearly two thousand milk cows grazed county pastures.[135]

During the New Deal, county farmers briefly benefited from the Civilian Conservation Corps. Inaugurated in 1933, the CCC was one component of the Roosevelt administration's response to the chronic unemployment of the Depression. Local boys who enlisted during the first year


HOTEL WILRIK
SANFORD, N.C.
FIREPROOF
RATES $1.50 TO $2.50
STOP AT THE BEST IT COSTS NO MORE
OUR FOOD HAS MADE US POPULAR
ONE BLOCK LEFT AT STOP LIGHT
SANFORD DAIRY
VISITORS WELCOME

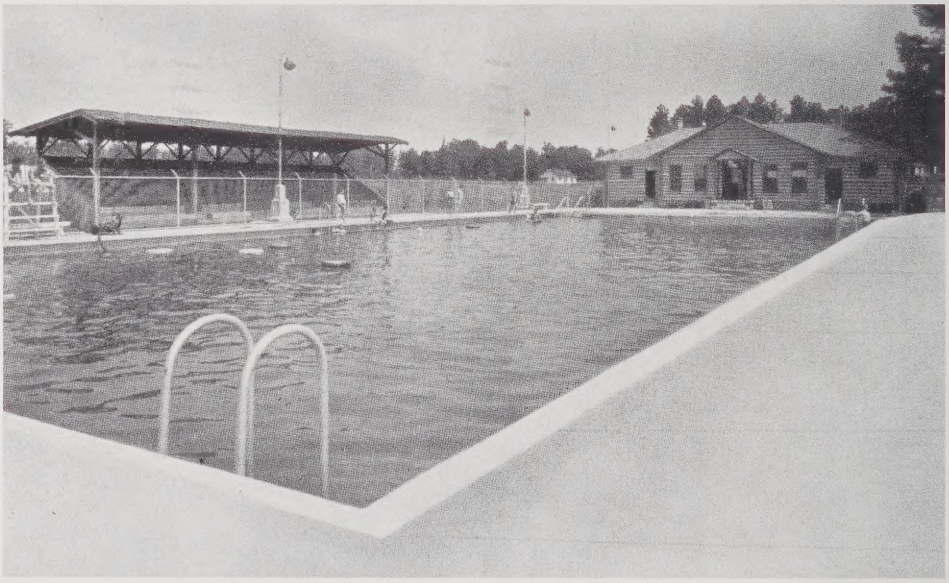
Yarborough's

of the corps trained at nearby Fort Bragg.[136] But it was not until the fall of 1939 that Camp No. 3417 was established in the county. Located off US 421 between Sanford and Cumnock, the camp featured prefabricated frame barracks, truck sheds, and a bathhouse. Soil conservation and military preparedness were the camp's chief mission, and the enlistees were instructed in reading, writing, woodworking, mechanics, and "leader training."[137] Camp No. 3417 was disbanded in 1941 and the buildings trucked to Fort Bragg, leaving behind concrete pads that later served as foundations for buildings erected by J&G Machinery.[138]

The New Deal generated other public construction projects in the county. The consolidated schools gained new classroom wings, gymnasiums, agriculture buildings, and teacherages, all built with relief funds. Recreational facilities such as a municipal golf course and a swimming pool were constructed on the outskirts of Sanford, and a modernistic armory went up on McIver Street (Fig. 4.38). First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt stopped in Sanford on April 28, 1940, to visit a National Youth Administration "homemaking center" then under construction on Tryon Street (Fig. 4.39). The homemaking center was one of several projects undertaken by the NYA boys, including renovations at the county courthouse and work on the municipal swimming pool and tennis courts on Park Avenue.[139]

Through public construction projects, the tobacco allotment system, and other programs, the New Deal helped ease Lee County's passage through the difficult years of the Great Depression. The county benefited too from its enviable railroad and highway connections and its diversified industries. With the outbreak of the Second World War, Lee County was set for an economic comeback.

Figure 4.38
Swimming Pool at Park Avenue Park (ca. 1940), between Carthage and Tryon streets, Sanford (demolished) (Courtesy of W. W. Seymour, Jr.)



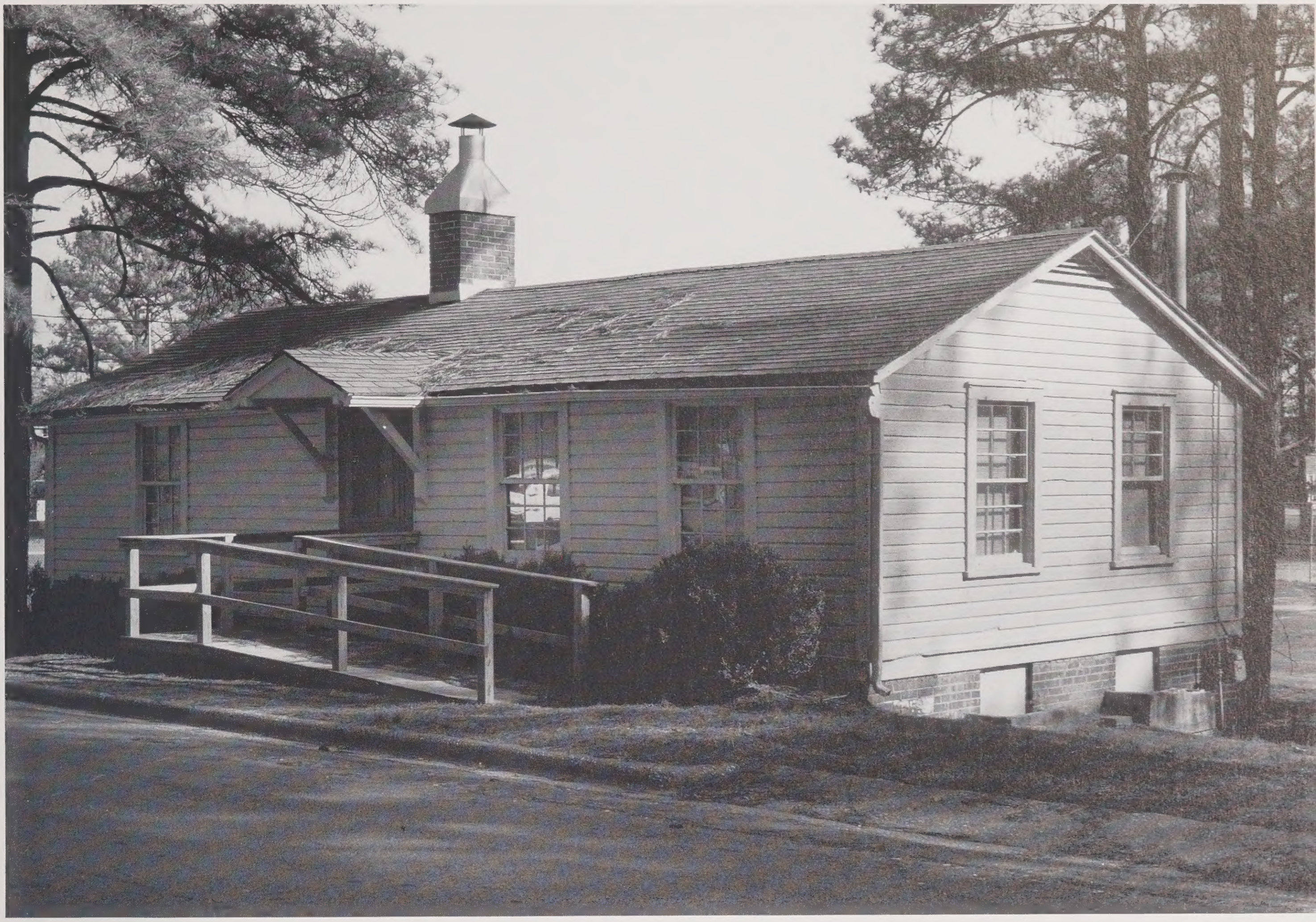
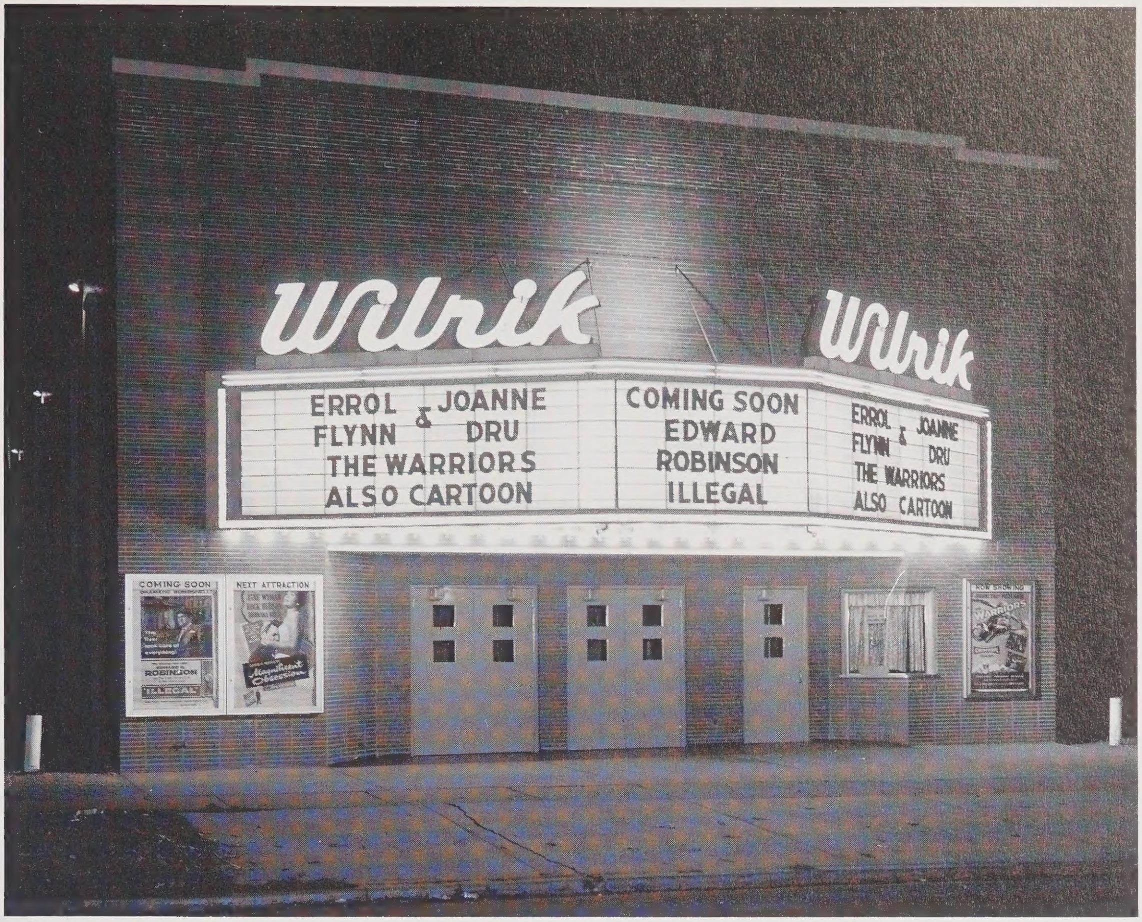


Figure 4.39
National Youth Administration (NYA) Building (1940), 807 Tryon Street, Sanford



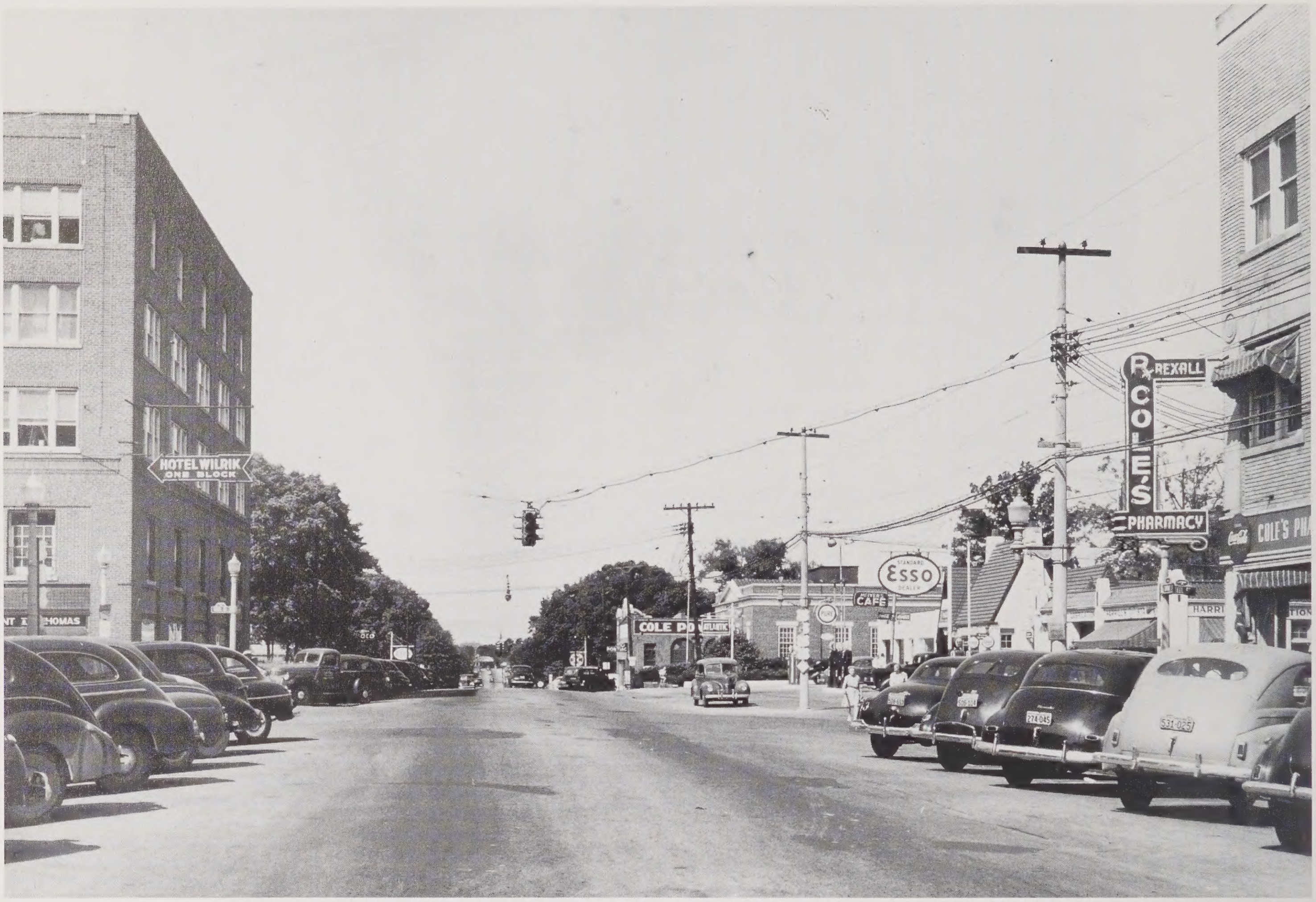
Early Modernism: the Wilrik Theater, 327 Carthage Street, Sanford (Photo 1955)

5

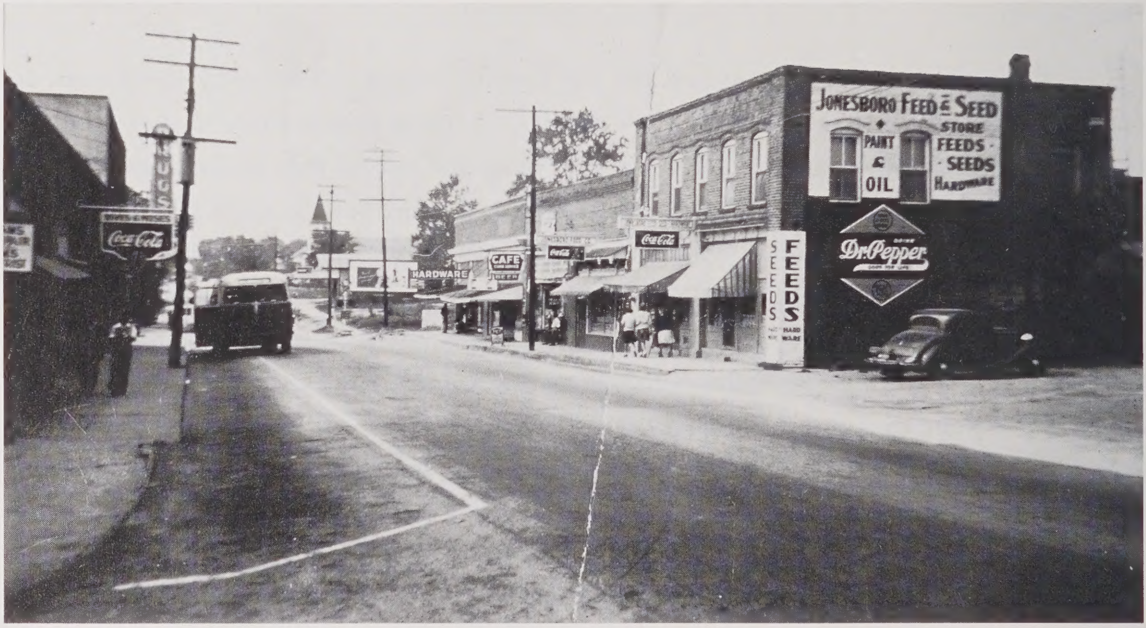
The Recent Past, 1941 to the Present

The Lee County of 1941 and the Lee County of today share many similarities. In 1941, the towns of Sanford and Jonesboro—destined to merge into one city in 1947—had assumed their present role as the commercial and industrial hub of the county (Figs. 5.1, 5.2). Towns, villages, and farms were linked to each other and to the outside world by a network of railroads and highways similar to the transportation system that serves the county today. Well-kept, white-painted farmhouses surrounded by tobacco barns, livestock stalls, and fields were a familiar scene in the countryside—a scene that still greets the eye in agricultural areas around Broadway, Lemon Springs, and elsewhere. Yet the Lee County landscape continued to evolve during the war and the prosperous years that followed.

World War II proved a boon to the county's economy. Local industries were converted to the production of war materiel, and workers flooded into Sanford. Industries like the Sanford Furniture Company, located in the old buggy factory on Chatham Street, converted to manufacturing wooden bumpers for tugboats, and the Edwards Railway Motor Car Company, operated by the Rogers Diesel and Aeronautical Company shortly before the war, hired up to eight hundred employees to produce aircraft parts.[1] Fort Bragg, which at its closest point was only eight miles from the county's southern border, provided an insatiable market for building supplies produced by the Isenhour brick plants, King Roofing, and others. Soldiers searching for enter-



Figures 5.1, 5.2
Sanford/Jonesboro's two downtowns in the mid-twentieth century: the intersection of Carthage and Steele streets in Sanford and Main Street in Jonesboro (Courtesy of the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and the Jonesboro Historical Society)



tainment and companionship found them at local night spots, and officers and other military personnel lodged with Lee County families.

After wartime restrictions on construction activities were lifted locally in October 1946, the ensuing postwar economic boom created a home-building boom.[2] Between 1940 and 1950, the number of housing units in Lee County increased by over 40 percent, from 4,249 to 5,975.[3] Many of these new units were built in Sanford's mushrooming "Victory Villages." An early and representative subdivision is Circle Avenue, developed by William Brinn with Farmers Home Administration assistance (Fig. 5.3). The virtually identical frame cottages that line the late-1940s cul-de-sac were built by general contractor Edward H. Wood. A larger neighborhood was developed about 1948 by William Brinn and others for employees of Saco-Lowell, the textile machinery manufacturer that acquired and enlarged the Edwards/Rogers plant and grew to become the county's largest employer during the late 1940s. Although they were intended for Saco-Lowell employees, the seventy-three houses constructed in the area around Seventh and Bragg streets were purchased mostly by veterans.[4]

Lee County witnessed sustained industrial growth after the war. In 1953, the electronics manufacturer Cornell-Dubilier established a plant in Jonesboro and surpassed Saco-Lowell as the county's largest employer, with over a thousand workers. Cornell-Dubilier's 275,000-square-foot brick, concrete, cinder-block, and steel assembly building, constructed by L. P. Cox Company of Jonesboro, was the harbinger of the vast industrial complexes built in the county through the end of the twentieth century.[5]

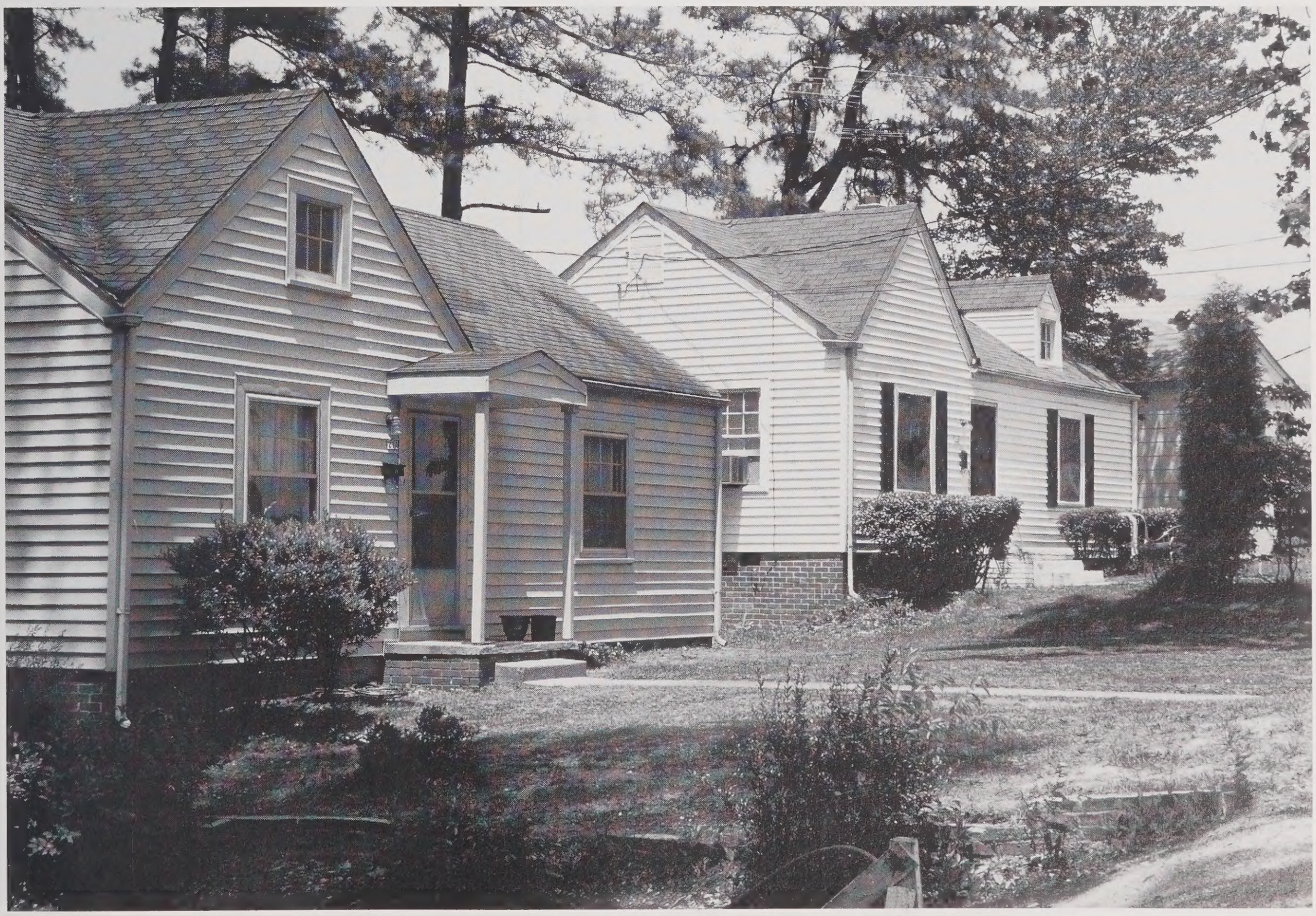
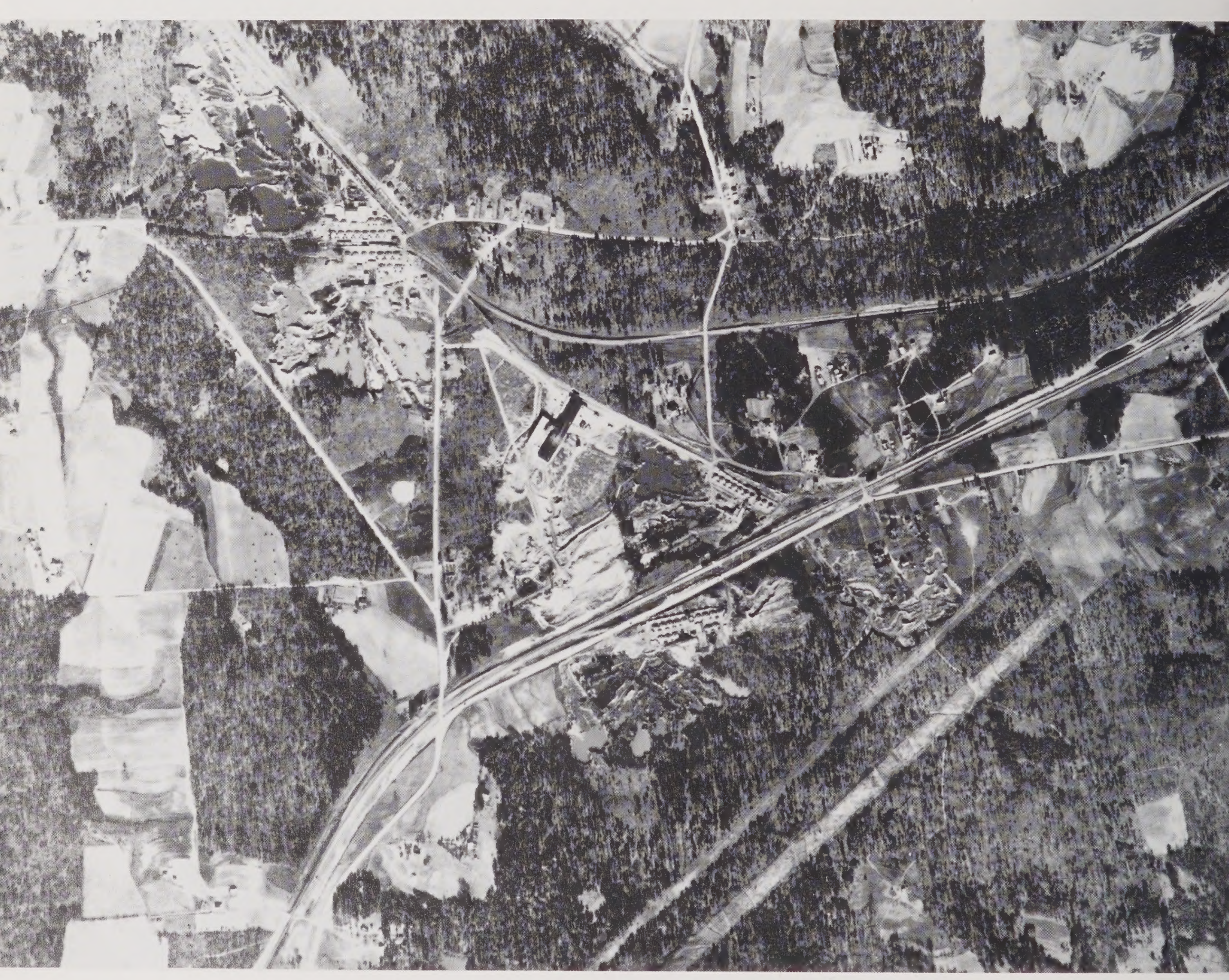


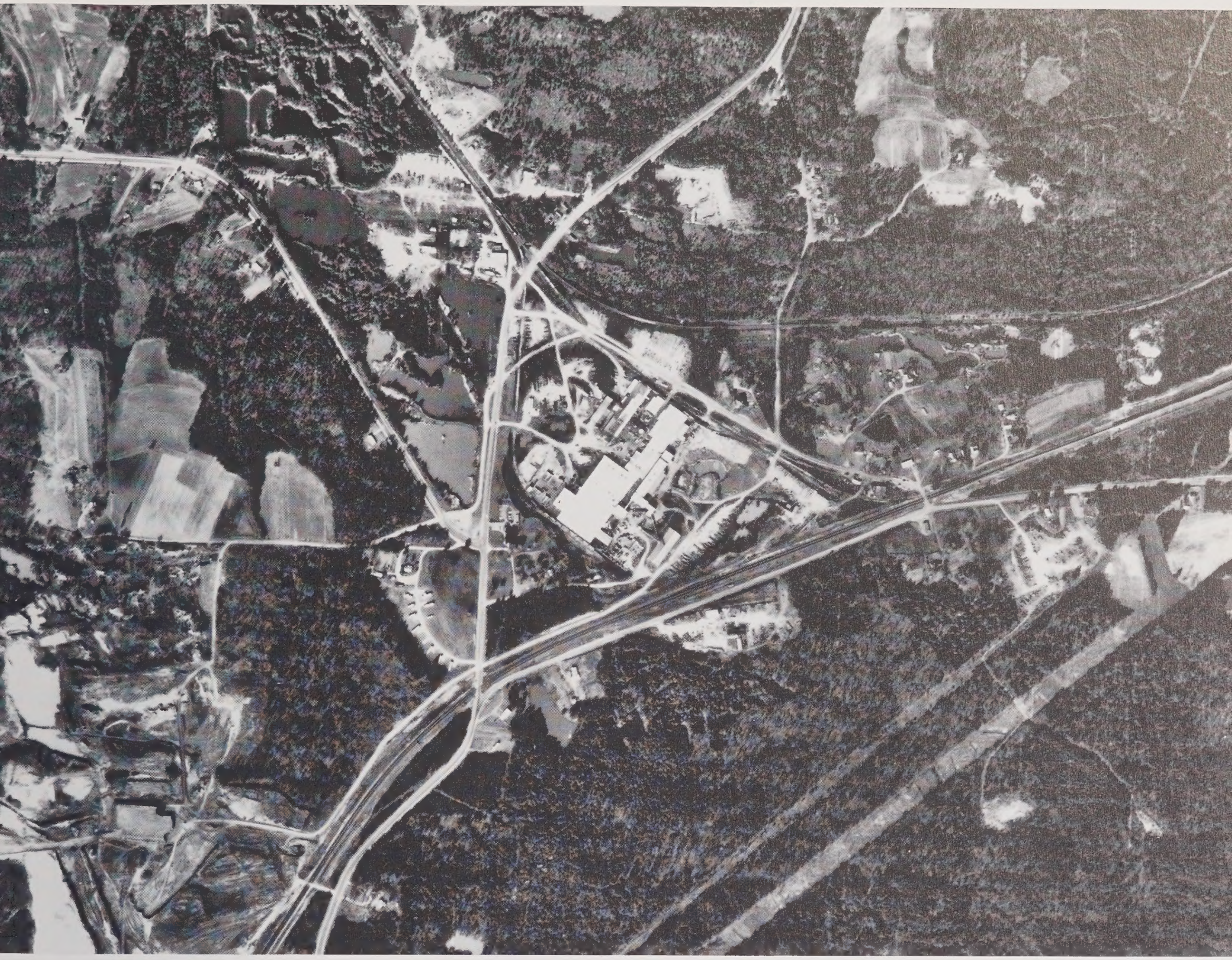
Figure 5.3
Circle Avenue, Sanford, developed in the late 1940s

Figures 5.4, 5.5 Sanford Brick & Tile's postwar expansion at Colon. The aerial photo on the left, taken in 1950, shows Plant 1 and peripheral clusters of beehive kilns. The aerial photo on the right, taken in 1972, shows the enlargement of the complex to

Local brick manufacturers responded to the phenomenal national expansion in building activity that followed the war (Figs. 5.4, 5.5). In 1948, Sanford Brick & Tile president Lewis D. Isenhour constructed two continuous-firing "tunnel" kilns for a sprawling new facility at Colon known as Plant 1 (Fig. 5.6). Three additional plants were constructed in 1951, 1954, and 1956. By the end of the 1950s, Sanford Brick & Tile had installed twelve tunnel kilns with a combined output of over half a million bricks per day, and the work force had grown to nearly four hundred employees.[6] Borden Brick & Tile also installed tunnel kilns, giving it an annual capacity of 48 million bricks by 1966.

A third brick manufacturer joined Isenhour and Borden in 1946, when the Lee Brick & Tile Company was established on US 1 north of Sanford (Fig. 5.7). The second brick manufacturer in the state to install a continuous-firing kiln, Lee Brick & Tile employed seventy-five workers in 1966.[7] Lee County's brick plants produced approximately 40 percent of all brick manufac-





tured in the state in the 1950s, and North Carolina in turn produced a sizable percentage of the national total: 10 percent in 1960. In 1959, statistics such as these inspired officials to erect a brick sign on the US 1 Sanford bypass that to this day proclaims, "Sanford, N.C., Brick Capital of the U.S.A."[8]

Farming continued as an important component of the local economy, but agricultural employment, farm tenancy, and farmland acreage began to decline. The proportion of county land area devoted to farming decreased from 66 percent to 54 percent during the late 1950s alone.[9] Local and migrant laborers left farm employment to search for opportunities in the industrial sector. Mechanization may have contributed to this exodus: between 1945 and 1950, the number of tractors owned by Lee County farmers jumped from 120 to 250. Yet older forms of power persisted; in 1955, Lee County farms were still home to 1,396 mules.[10]

In the late 1940s, tobacco provided 60 to 75 percent of farm income in the county, and despite the downward trend in other farm statistics, tobacco production continued to climb dur-

roughly its present extent and the elimination of all but one of the beehive kilns. (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

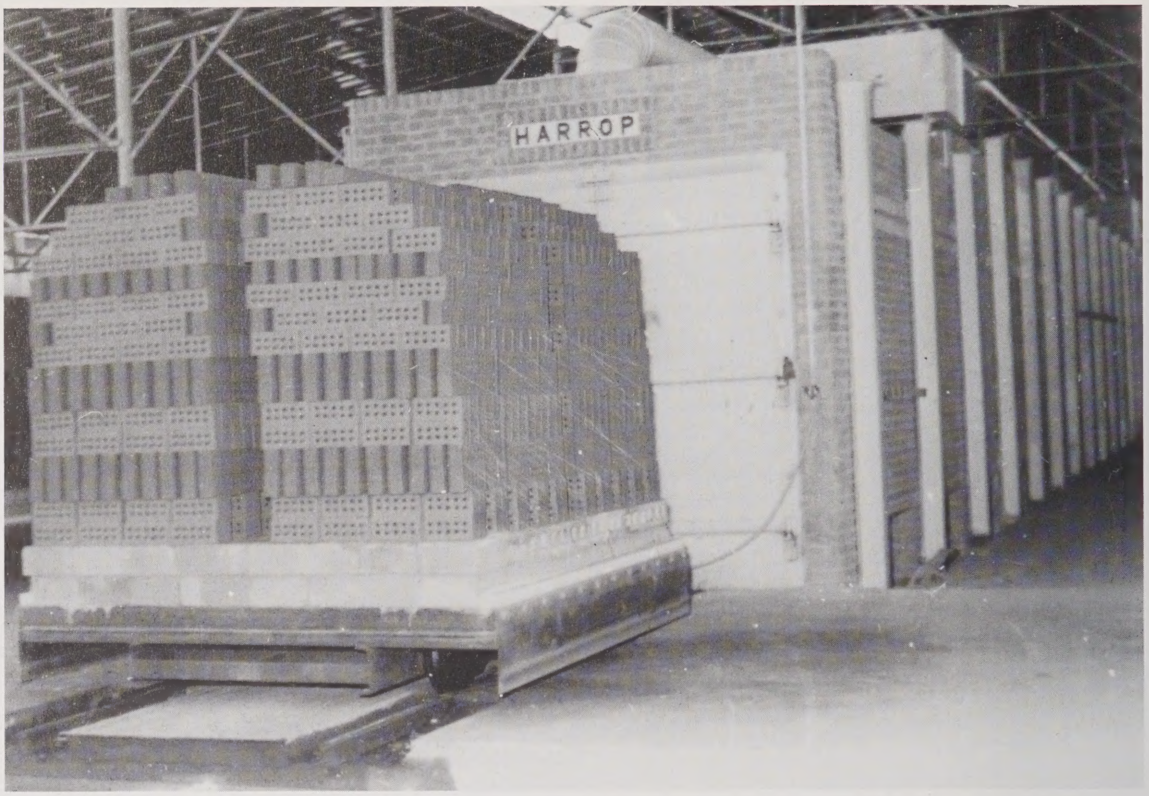


Figure 5.6
A tunnel kiln at Sanford Brick & Tile, Colon (Photo ca. 1950, courtesy of Cherokee Sanford Group, Inc.)

ing the period, reaching 6,018 pounds in 1955.[11] Sanford emerged as a regional tobacco market, a status attributed to the town's "fortunate geographical position at the center of a network of railroads, highways and county roads."[12] In 1947, eight selling floors operated in the town, a redrying plant opened on Wicker Street, and the Sanford Tobacco Company began to construct a complex of storage sheds along the Atlantic Coast Line near the county courthouse.[13] A subsidiary of the Austin Tobacco Company of Greenville, Tennessee, the Sanford Tobacco Company expanded its warehouse complex to eleven buildings with a capacity of 54 million pounds of tobacco by 1959 (Fig. 5.8). During peak season, the company payroll swelled to six hundred employees.[14] Among local nonagricultural businesses that were dependent on tobacco culture was the Hallman Foundry in Jonesboro. In 1947, the foundry manufactured oil-burning tobacco curers, including "the ever popular FARMERS FRIEND" model.[15]

Tobacco remains an important crop in Lee County (Fig. 5.9). As recently as 1985, the crop accounted for half of the county's $14.5 million gross farm income. Poultry production ranked a distant second in 1985, but its production has grown in importance since.[16] Other crops have joined tobacco in the county's fields; soybean cultivation has increased since the Second World War, and recent years have seen the return of cotton.

As local industries have competed more and more effectively for labor, tobacco farmers have had difficulty in securing an adequate supply of manpower. In the early 1980s, local farmers began to rely on Mexican migrant workers. The number of Mexican farmworkers has risen steadily from the 175 workers who assisted with the 1981 tobacco crop, and many Hispanics have moved into other sectors of the economy, such as chicken plant processing, the restaurant

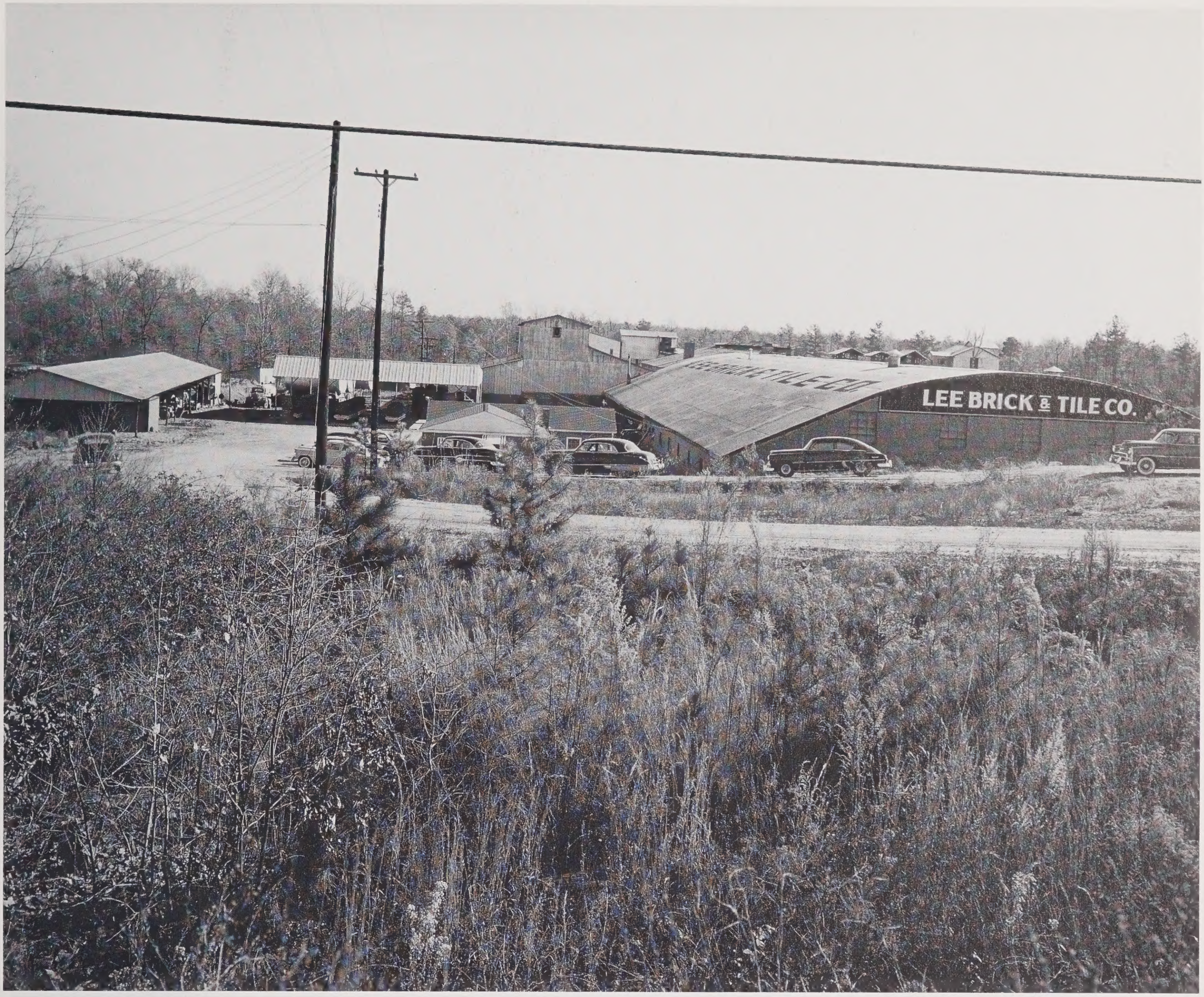


Figure 5.7
Lee Brick & Tile Company, 3704 Hawkins Avenue, Sanford vicinity (Photo ca. 1950)

trade, and the professions, assisted by the Hispanic Task Force of Lee County, Inc. Established in the early 1990s, the task force was among the state's first organizations of its kind to help Hispanics integrate into mainstream society. The Hispanic experience in Lee County, as one Task Force member has put it, is the "American story going on all over again."[17]

During the postwar period, Lee County's African-American population achieved greater equality. The local civil rights struggle culminated in the 1960s with boycotts and marches in downtown Sanford, several of them organized by the Rev. James R. Hampton of Blandonia Presbyterian Church. Official segregation had begun to crack earlier, in 1952, when H. G. Harris became the first black officer on the Sanford police force, and three years later, when Herbert Fuller was appointed to the Sanford Board of Education's Advisory Committee on Integration.[18] Although the 1960s saw progress in correcting social injustices, economic inequality persisted for Sanford's African-Americans. In 1963, black per capita income stood at $688, less than half the $1,733 income for whites.[19]

In recent years, the county has served as home base to a regional convenience store chain: The Pantry chain, founded in 1967 by businessmen Sam Wornom and Truby G. Proctor, Jr. The chain began with a simple market strategy, targeting customers living in the immediate vicinity of its stores. This successful approach helped The Pantry expand from its first store at 134 North Horner Boulevard in Sanford to 171 stores in four states by 1977 and 480 stores in six states by 1982. (The chain presently operates about 400 stores in the states of North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indiana.) One of the first convenience stores in the state to offer self-service gasoline, by 1982 The Pantry had developed what it called a "pumper store . . . geared towards gasoline and fast food snacks." The prototype pumper store was built at the intersection of South Horner Boulevard and Woodland Avenue and featured twelve gas pumps, a "heat reclaim" heating system linked to the beverage coolers, and, of course, walls constructed of Sanford brick.[20]

Figure 5.8 (above) Sanford Tobacco Company warehouses (1950s) on South Third Street, Sanford

Figure 5.9 (below) Planting tobacco in 1994, Fire Tower Road, Sanford vicinity

On the architectural front, modernism made its first tentative appearance in Lee County before the Second World War. The Craftsman style, best represented locally by the stylish bungalows of Sanford's 1920s boom years, had paved the way toward modernism through greater experimentation in form, detailing, and materials. About 1930, telephone executive Max T. Heins built a concrete-block house on Sanford's Summit Drive that appears to be Mediterranean in inspiration—it has stuccoed walls and a portale-like front porch—but with a stripped-down simplicity that is modernist in spirit.[21] The 1938 Sanford Armory at 147 McIver Street, designed by Greensboro architect Joseph J. Sawyer, went further. In form, the armory is vaguely reminiscent of a classical temple, with its rigidly symmetrical facade and peaked parapet, but its streamlined ornamentation, horizontal composition, and use of aluminum and other modern materials place it squarely in the modernist camp (Fig. 5.10).

The optimism and prosperity that followed the war translated into a progressive spirit in architecture. Brick manufacturer Lewis D. Isenhour blazed the trail when in 1949 he hired Raleigh architects Jesse M. Page, Jr., and William Correll to design a modern brick residence at 300 Carbonton Road. The angled plan of the Isenhour House and its sweeping horizontal massing owe much to the Usonian house designs of America's foremost modern architect, Frank

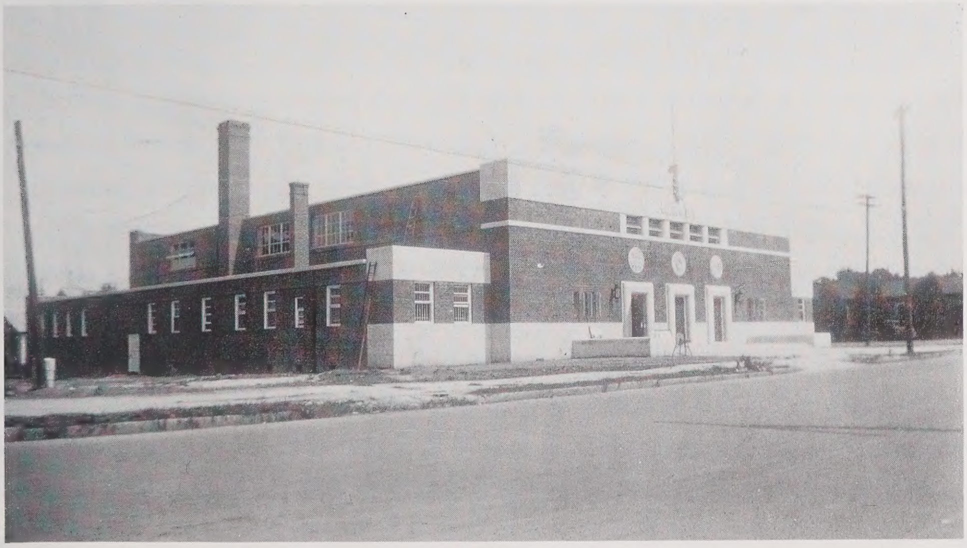


Figure 5.10 Sanford Armory under construction on McIver Street (Photo 1938, courtesy of Eugenia Thompson)

Lloyd Wright.[22] Within two years the Isenhour House was joined on nearby Chisholm Street by real estate developer Bryant Johnson's "new ranch style home," a one-story flat-roofed residence with picture windows and portholed metal garage doors.[23] Ranch houses like the Bryant Johnson residence came to dominate local domestic construction during the third quarter of the twentieth century. Only recently has the popularity of the ranch waned, as home-builders have gravitated toward the traditionalism of the Colonial Revival style.

The Colonial Revival—actually a loose interpretation and fusion of several classical and historic traditions—was introduced locally during the years between the world wars in buildings like the First Presbyterian Church of Sanford Manse at 212 Hawkins Avenue, the Lee County Agriculture Building at 225 South Steele Street (built with Works Progress Administration funding), and several houses designed and built by the Wilson architectural firm of Charles Benton & Sons and hometown builder L. P. Cox.[24] The style has had a profound effect on the county's church architecture (Fig. 5.11). Since the 1950s, many of the county's rural congregations have "colonialized" older church buildings with brick veneers, pedimented entryways, and fiberglass steeples, greatly changing the original character of the buildings.

Modernism also extended to institutional and commercial architecture after the war. The Lee County Senior High School (begun in 1950 and originally known as Central High) at 1708 Nash Street in Sanford was the first of several modern schools built during the 1950s and 1960s to cope with the "Baby Boom" generation. In the late 1950s, the National Bank of Sanford selected one of the state's foremost modernists, A. G. Odell, Jr., of Charlotte, and Sanford contractor L. P. Cox to design and build its new Steele Street branch. The bank, described in the local press as being of "startling contemporary design," featured a gray brick exterior and a facade shielded by an anodized aluminum sunscreen.[25] Commercial buildings in downtown Sanford, Jonesboro, and Broadway received new storefront or facade treatments after the war: aluminum, architectural glass, and wood-shingled mansards replaced earlier wood and brass mullions, prism-glass transoms, and canvas awnings.

At the end of the twentieth century, modernism remains the dominant architectural language for large-scale construction in the county. The Lee County Civic Center (1991) on Nash Street demonstrates the breadth of symbolism, contextualism, and historical allusion characteristic of recent work in the idiom (Fig. 5.12). Designed by Robert Anderson of the Southern Pines architectural firm of Hayes/Howell, P.A., the building's main entry, marked by an outward-reaching canopy and a "marquee tower" with a playfully angled awning, is intended to embrace the public figuratively and to create a "sense of festivity." The facility's prismatic massing, utilitarian exterior finishes, and aluminum-surfaced bowstring truss roofs mirror the industrial character of the immediate surroundings, and other elements allude to the works of architects ranging from Sir John Vanbrugh to Louis Kahn.[26]

Lee County's experience since World War II has made it fertile ground for national forms such as trailer parks, franchise restaurants, and shopping malls. But in recent years, local residents have rediscovered the special qualities of the county's historic downtown areas, residential neighborhoods, and farmsteads. This emerging preservation ethic can be traced to 1962, when the Railroad House, downtown Sanford's oldest building, was threatened with demolition to make way for a service station expansion. The successful effort to move and restore the Railroad House gave rise to the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc., an organization dedicated

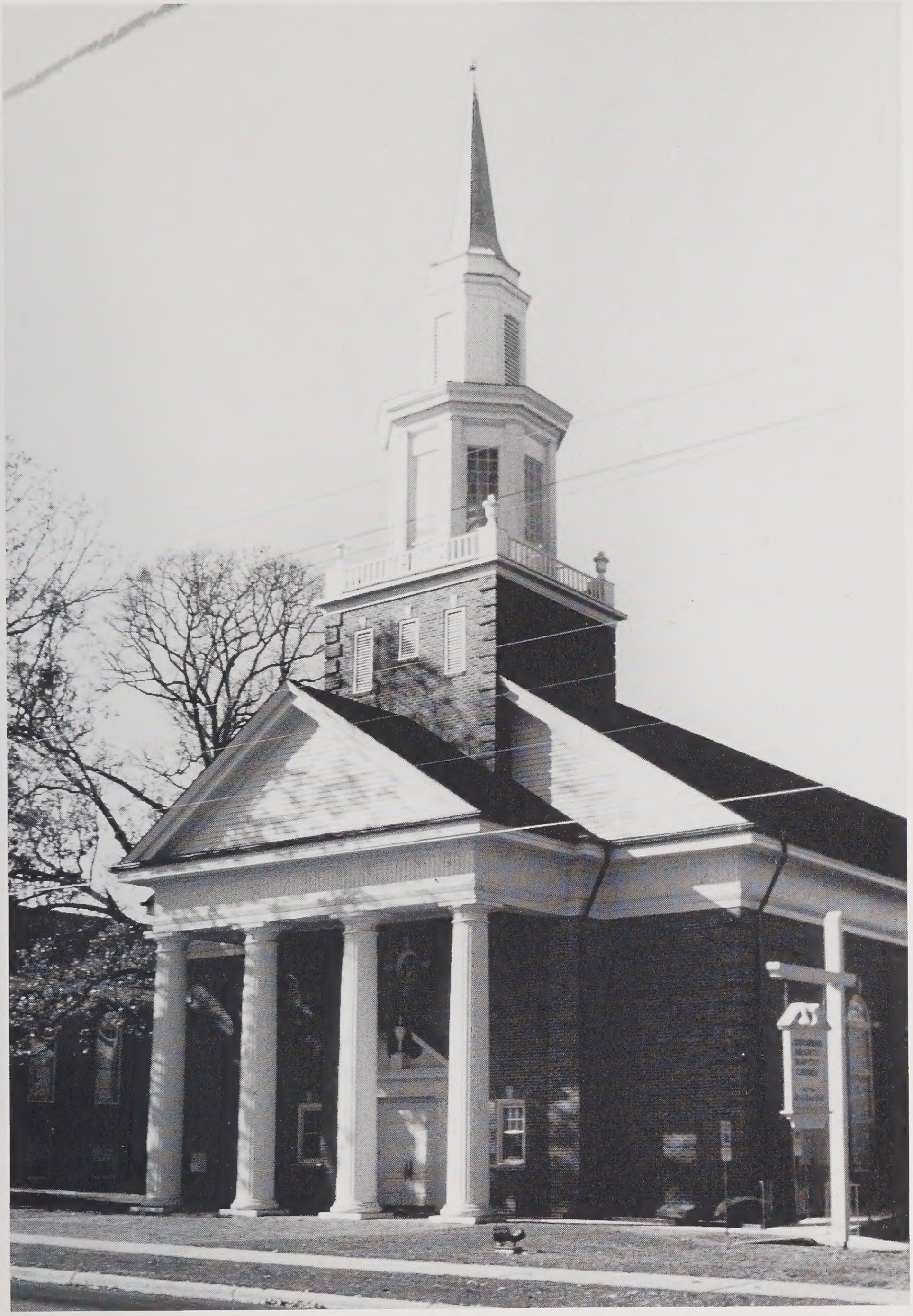


Figure 5.11 Jonesboro Heights Baptist Church (1975), 316 West Main Street, Jonesboro. A prominent example of late-twentieth-century Colonial Revival church architecture (Photo by Hal Tysinger)

to preserving the county's heritage and, as a consequence of that mission, the principal sponsor of the 1991–92 Lee County Architectural Survey.[27] Other preservation organizations have formed to pursue similar objectives. In 1974, the sense of loss occasioned by the demolition of the William Murchison House in Jonesboro, one of the town's oldest residences, led to the formation of the Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society (Fig. 5.13).[28] The original Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society later disbanded and many of its members joined forces with the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc.—the present society, more genealogical in its focus, was organized in 1985. The Jonesboro Historical Society, incorporated in

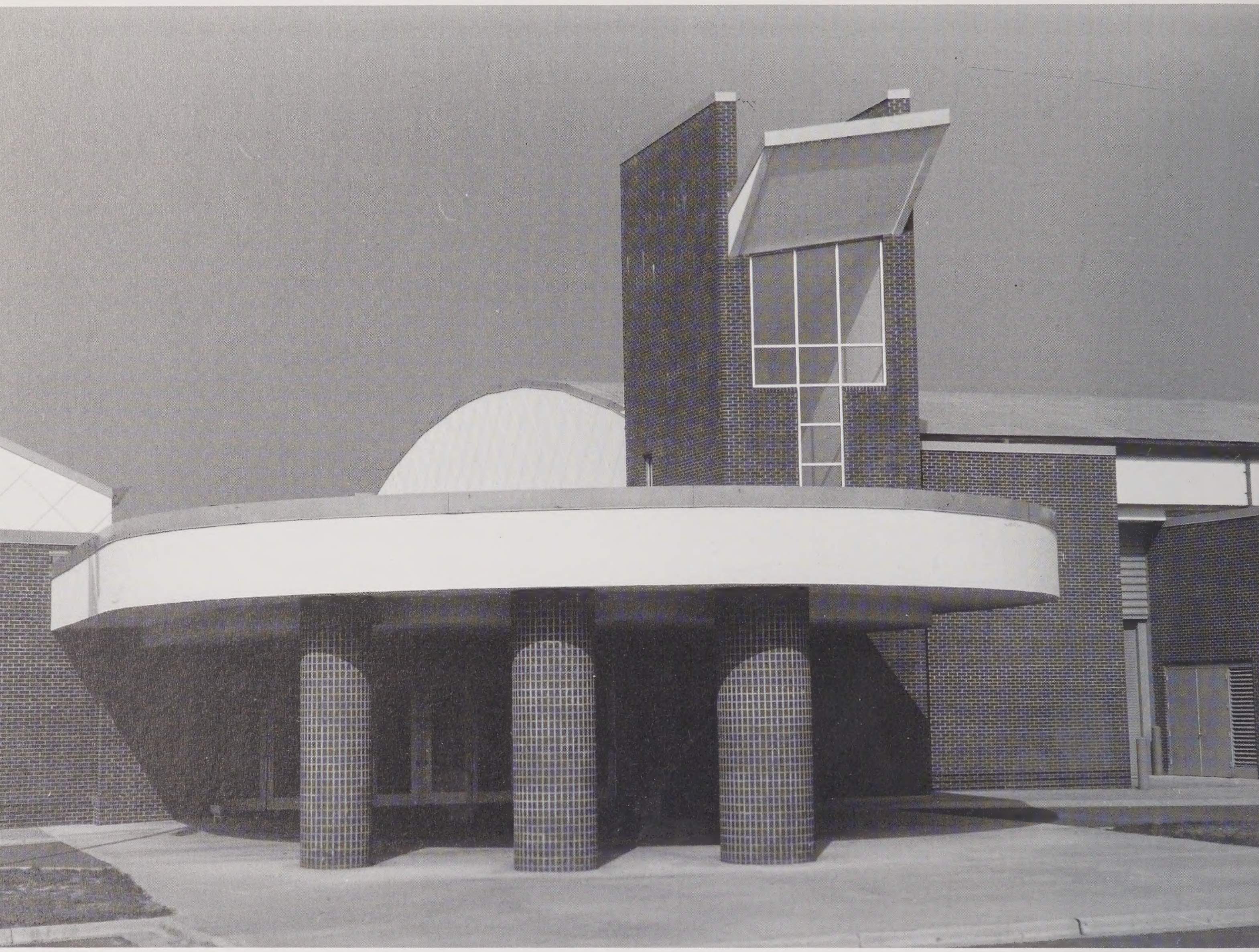


Figure 5.12
Late Modernism: the Lee County Civic Center (1991), Nash Street, Sanford

1990, has established a museum in the Jonesboro Branch of the Lee County Library. One of its objectives is the preservation of Jonesboro's separate identity as the oldest town in the county.[29] Other organizations with preservation missions include the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Deep River Park Association.

Public-sector participation in preservation expanded in the early 1980s with the creation of Sanford's Downtown Revitalization Department and its private-sector counterpart, the Downtown Sanford Redevelopment Corporation. Under its director, Mary Ellen Bowen, the Department was instrumental in listing the Downtown Sanford Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. District listing paved the way for tax-credit rehabilitations such as the Carolina Hotel/Carolina Makepeace project, completed in 1990. In 1991, the city established a Historic and Appearance Commission which includes among its duties the stewardship of the city's historic areas.[30]

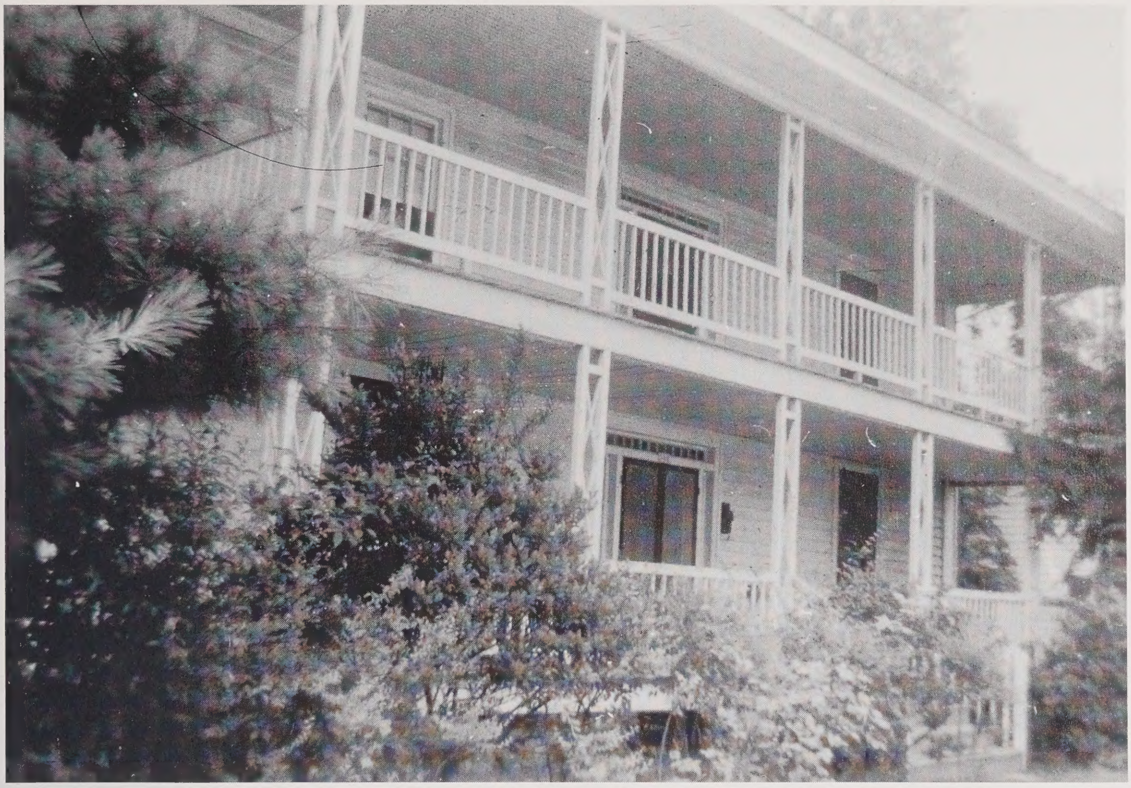


Figure 5.13 William Murchison House (ca. 1870), Jonesboro, shortly before its demolition in 1974. (Courtesy of Mrs. Hubert L. Wilson)

Through the work of the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc., the Downtown Revitalization Department, and other preservation-minded organizations and individuals, downtown Sanford has taken on a new life. Buildings left vacant or underutilized by the suburban flight of the mid-twentieth century have been reclaimed for housing, retail, and other uses. Recent high-profile preservation efforts have included the rehabilitation of the 1909 Connor H. Smith Building at 110 South Moore Street as office and retail space, and the rehabilitation of the 1924 Makepeace Building at 101–115 South Steele Street as a restaurant. These successful projects, and the dozens of private residential rehabilitations completed every year, demonstrate how the preservation ethic has taken root in Lee County.

APPENDIX: SELECTED LEE COUNTY BUILDERS AND ARCHITECTS

Literally hundreds of professional and amateur builders, architects, contractors, and carpenters have shaped Lee County's architecture over the years. This appendix documents the careers of fifteen resident builders, architects, and construction firms, active through about 1950, that have made important contributions to the development of the county's architecture or that have been responsible for the design or construction of a number of surviving buildings. Other builders and architects are referenced under "Builders and architects" in the Index.

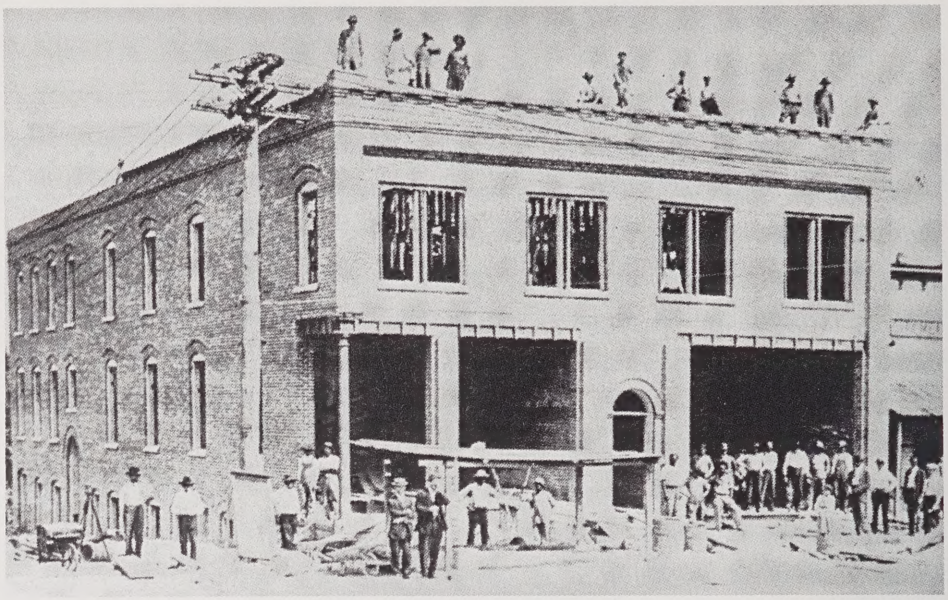
BOYKIN, A. LINCOLN

Arnold Lincoln Boykin (ca. 1870–1943), or "Link" Boykin as he was known in Sanford, left his native Sampson County as a young man and settled in the Moore County town of Cameron, where he took a job building rail facilities along the Seaboard Air Line.[1] Boykin apparently moved to Sanford by 1895, when he bought a lot on the Seaboard line south of the downtown area.[2] Early Sanford developer John D. McIver contracted with Boykin on numerous occasions, probably to build speculative housing in the town's African-American neighborhoods.[3] By 1910, Boykin had formed the firm of Boykin & Toomer, which advertised in the *Sanford Express* as "contractors and builders." (Boykin's partner was evidently John Toomer, another African-American property owner in Sanford.)[4] Among the earliest houses known to have been built by Boykin in Sanford were the Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Parsonage (1912) at 508 Ramseur Street and the A. M. Hubbard House (ca. 1917), a frame dwelling that formerly stood on Summit Drive.[5]

Boykin's practice grew in the 1920s, and his payroll expanded to as many as fifty tradesmen, including carpenters and brickmasons such as the Goldston brothers, Coley Hooker, the Rev. A. E. Quick, Henry Robinson, and Guilford Smith.[6] In 1923–24, he built a new sanctuary for Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Church at 712 Wall Street. Other projects included the 1927 W. B. Wicker School (Lee County Training School), the 1925 Planters Tobacco Warehouse (demolished), Boykin's own mid-1920s residence at 705 Wall Street, and other houses in Sanford, including the 1924 S. L. Long House at 220 North Gulf Street, the ca. 1926 tourist home built for Ida Coulter at 503 Sunset Drive, and the framing for the 1928–29 Edward C., Jr., and Ethel S. Heins House at 410 North Gulf Street.[7]

Boykin was apparently also involved in the construction of the Wall Street Baptist Church (demolished), the 1936–37 Sanford Post Office (now known as the Federal Building) at 226 Carthage Street, and the 1927 Harry and Lillian Isaacson House at 506 Sunset Drive.[8] Outside Lee County, he built residences and commercial buildings in Chatham, Cumberland, Durham, and Harnett counties, including the Regal Theater in the city of Durham.[9] About 1930, he was joined by his son, Arnold Edward Boykin, who had studied in the Architectural Engineering program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the 1920s.[10] Arnold E. operated his father's business from the early 1940s into the 1950s, undertaking projects such as the 1937 Lura T. McNair House near Broadway and possibly also the ca. 1950 Buttercup Plant on Hawkins Avenue in Sanford.[11]

John W. Brown's crew building the Lutterloh Building, 201 Chatham Street, Sanford, photo 1909 (Courtesy of the Lutterloh family and the Suzanne Reeves Library, Sanford)



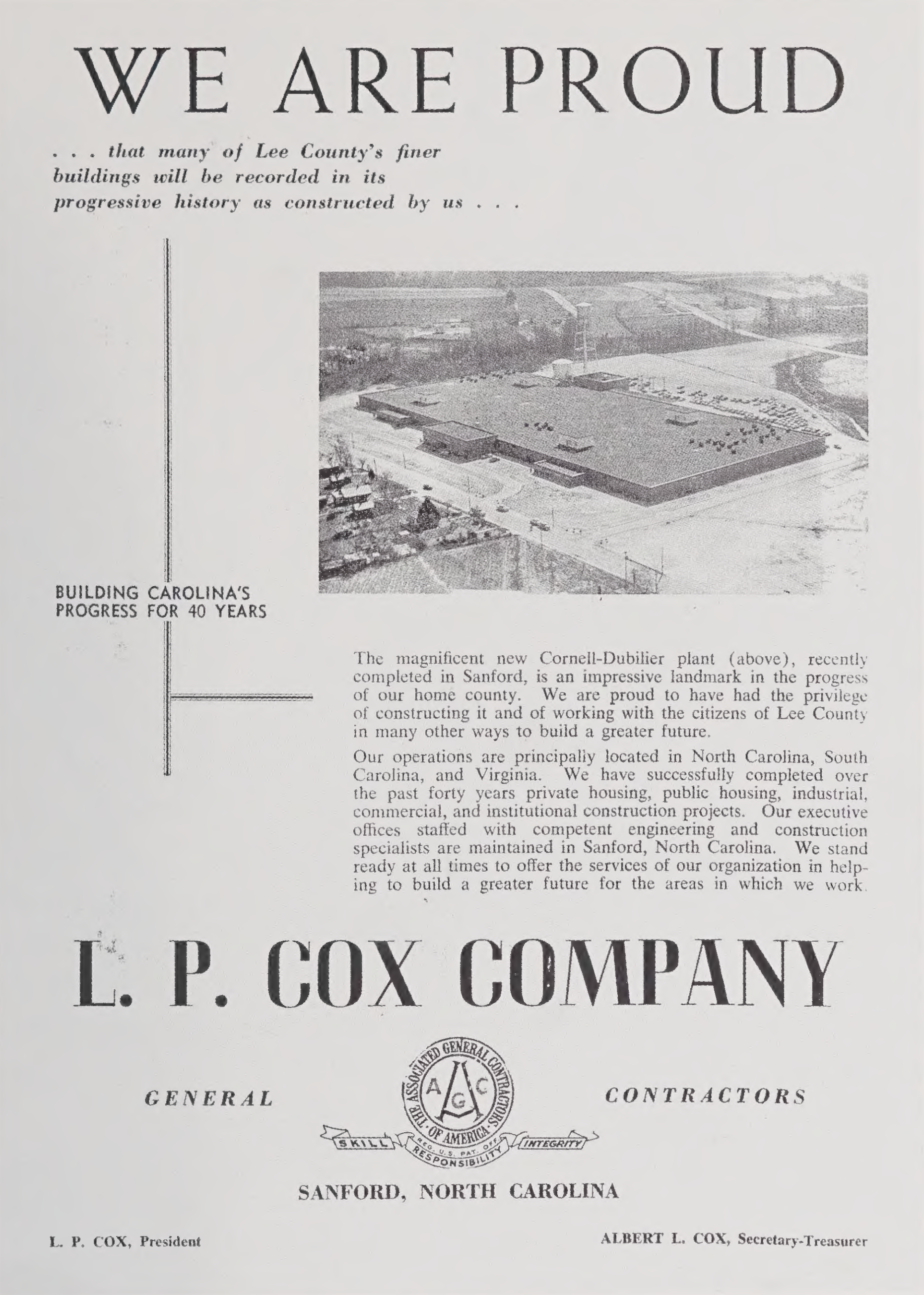
BROWN, JOHN W. AND VESPER

John W. Brown (1859–1912) was active as a brickmason in Sanford around the turn of the twentieth century. In 1897, he assisted in the construction of the Heilig residence in Raleigh while employed by the Sanford Sash & Blind Company.[12] He was also involved in the construction of the 1906 West Sanford School, formerly located on the west corner of Carthage and North Steele streets; a cotton warehouse for the Sanford Cotton Mills in 1908; and the 1909 Isaac H. Lutterloh Building at 201 Chatham Street.[13] Vesper Brown, John W.'s son, is credited with building the smokestack at the Sanford Cotton Mills, and in the 1920s he built his own residence in the McIver Park neighborhood.[14] In 1929, Vesper and Vera Brown (presumably his wife) and two others formed the V. C. Brown & Company general contracting firm.[15]

COX, LESLIE P.

Leslie Preston Cox (1894–1974) probably entered the construction trade in the 1910s. Cox incorporated in 1920, and in 1922 he formed the Central Carolina Construction Company with William R. Makepeace and F. W. Burkholder; their firm built the Deep River School in 1923–24.[16] Cox probably assisted in the construction of W. R. Makepeace's Mediterranean residence, constructed in the 1920s on Hawkins Avenue (demolished). During the 1920s and early 1930s, Cox was most active in Jonesboro and southern Lee County; among his earliest known commissions were his own house at 2006 Lee Avenue in Jonesboro, the 1924 Lemon Springs United Methodist Church, and the Masonic Building on East Main Street in Jonesboro, for which he was chosen as the contractor in December 1930.[17] Later in the 1930s, Cox teamed up with the Wilson architectural firm of Charles Benton & Sons to build several Colonial Revival residences in Jonesboro and Sanford, among them the 1939 Arthur H. McIver House at 1020 Carthage Street and the 1941 Lonnie L. Thomas House at 2002 Lee Avenue.

After World War II, L. P. Cox Company General Contractors established offices in a modern building at 119 West Main Street in Jonesboro.[18] The company eventually came to dominate



WE ARE PROUD

. . . that many of Lee County's finer buildings will be recorded in its progressive history as constructed by us . . .

BUILDING CAROLINA'S
PROGRESS FOR 40 YEARS

The magnificent new Cornell-Dubilier plant (above), recently completed in Sanford, is an impressive landmark in the progress of our home county. We are proud to have had the privilege of constructing it and of working with the citizens of Lee County in many other ways to build a greater future.

Our operations are principally located in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. We have successfully completed over the past forty years private housing, public housing, industrial, commercial, and institutional construction projects. Our executive offices staffed with competent engineering and construction specialists are maintained in Sanford, North Carolina. We stand ready at all times to offer the services of our organization in helping to build a greater future for the areas in which we work.

L. P. COX COMPANY

GENERAL *CONTRACTORS*

SANFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

L. P. COX, President **ALBERT L. COX, Secretary-Treasurer**

L.P. Cox Company advertisement, March 13, 1954 issue of *The State*

the local construction trade, and by 1954 it had extended its operations throughout the Carolinas and Virginia. Among the company's postwar commissions were the ca. 1950 Sanford Baptist Parsonage at 201 North Gulf Street, a two-story brick Colonial Revival residence; the huge Cornell-Dubilier Electric Corporation plant, built near Jonesboro in 1953; and the first unit of the Camille Dreyfus Laboratory, the second building erected at the Research Triangle Institute near Raleigh.[19]

GASTER, JOHN M.

John Morris Gaster (1830–1912), a farmer and coffin maker in the Swann's Station area, built his own house shortly after the Civil War: a one-story frame dwelling (now demolished) with a

John M. Gaster from an 1862 tintype (Courtesy of Marvin Gaster)

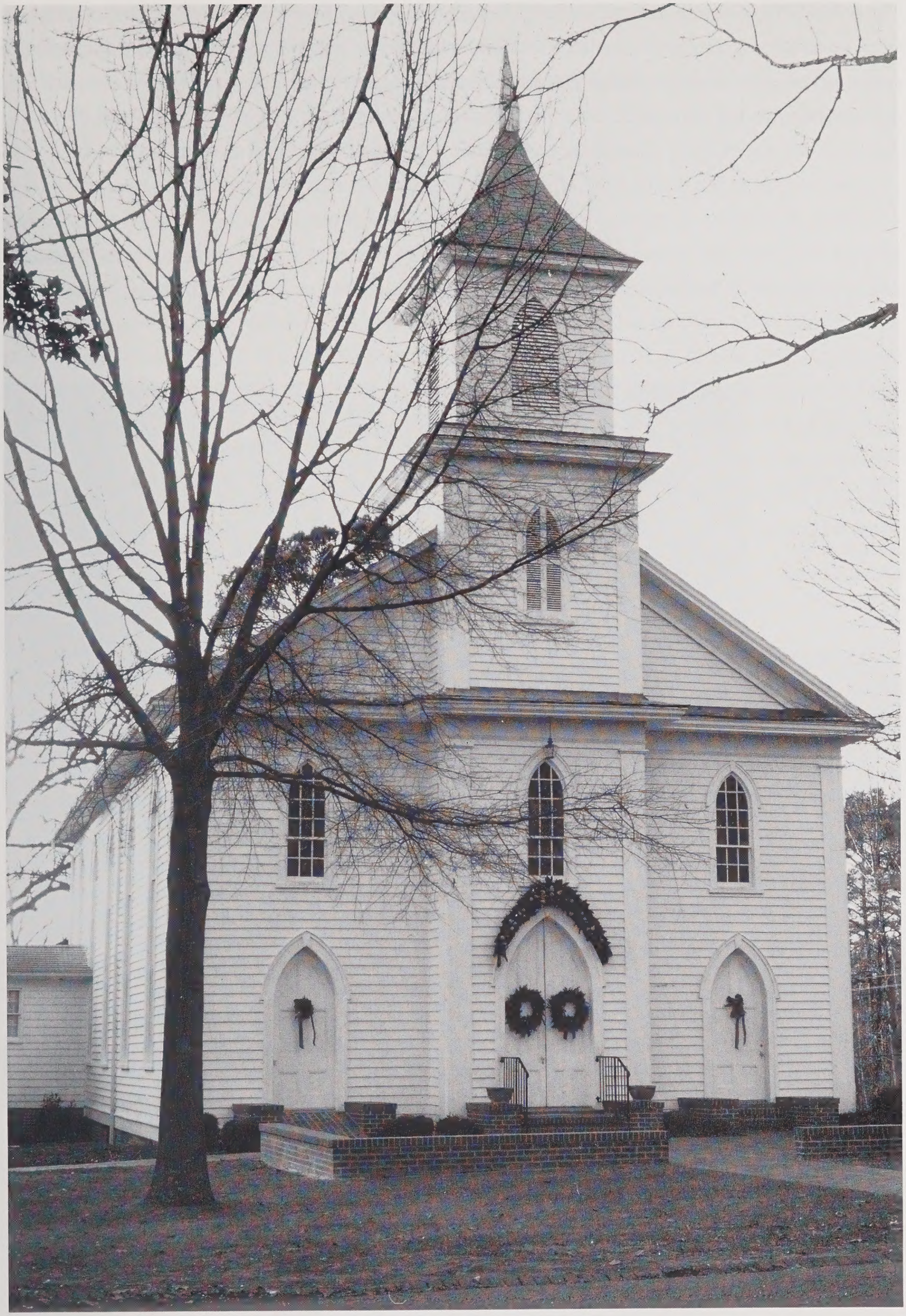
hip roof and an unusual T-shaped interior passage. Gaster is credited with building one of the earliest structures in Sanford (known as the Gaster & Clark or William T. Buchanan Store), and he is also the likely builder of the 1870s Atlas and Jackie M. Gross House at 4212 Cox Mill Road (SR 1529) and other Swann's Station–area residences with vernacular Victorian detailing similar to that of the Gross House.[20]

GILMORE, GEORGE W.

George W. Gilmore (1842–1912), a Patterson Creek–area farmer and builder who moved to Sanford in the 1890s, is said to have built some of the earliest houses in Sanford, as well as his own ca. 1875 residence at 1701 Cool Springs Road (SR 1325) and the contemporaneous Walter Gilmore House at nearby 2124 Southern Road (SR 1370). In September 1888, the local press reported that Gilmore had commenced the construction of a Methodist church in Sanford; this was probably Steele Street Methodist Church, a frame building with a front entry tower. This church formerly stood on the 200 block of South Steele Street and was replaced by a brick church building in the 1910s.[21]

JEWELL-RIDDLE COMPANY

The Jewell-Riddle Company was formed in late 1923 by builders William Leon Jewell and Charles Riddle and brick manufacturer R. E. Marks. During its first full year of operations in North Carolina, the firm built the Frank Clegg House in Sanford, a library in Henderson, a gymnasium at Buie's Creek Academy (Campbell College), and an administration building at the Methodist orphanage in Raleigh.[22] W. L. Jewell assumed full ownership of the firm in 1928.

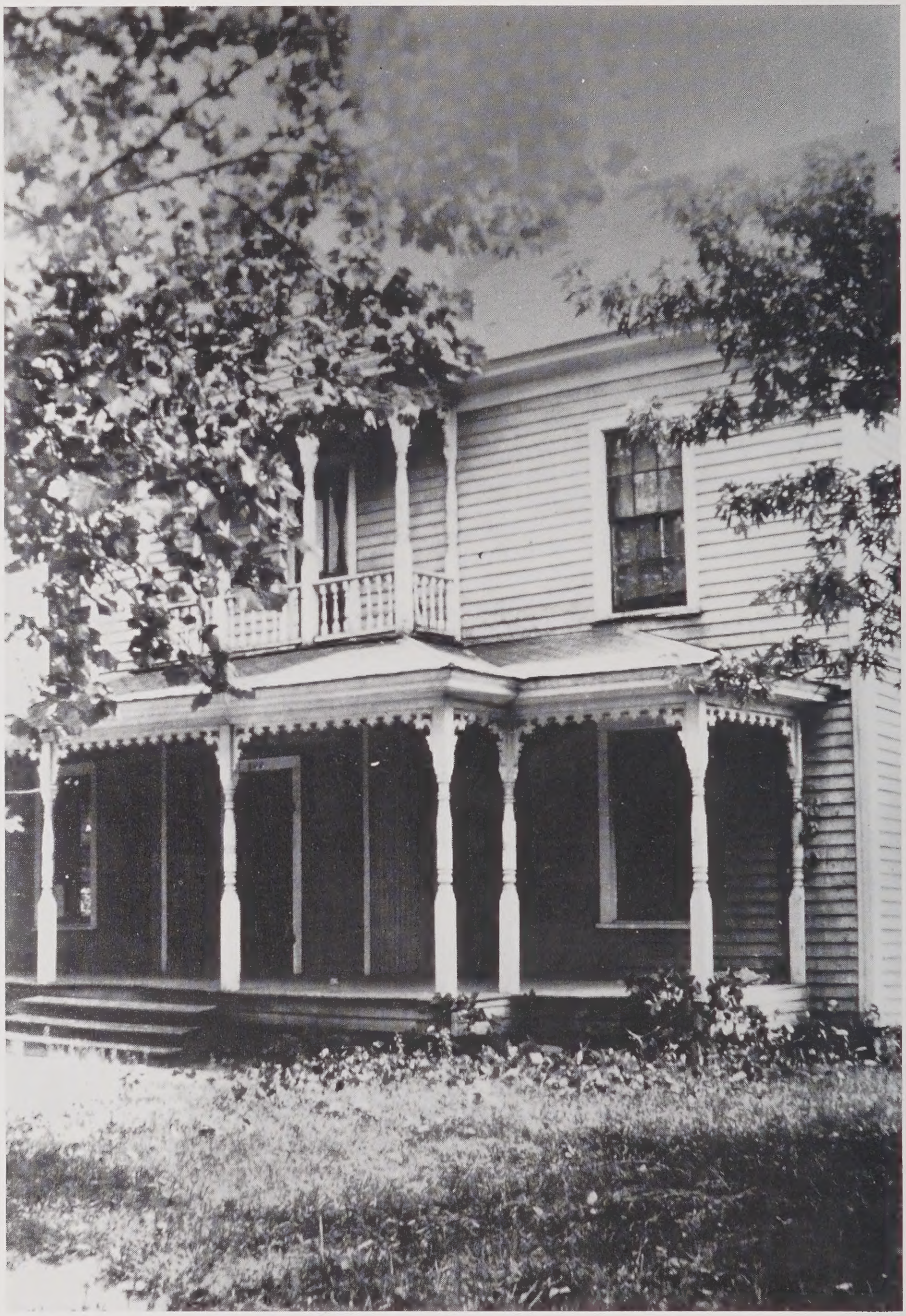


Buffalo
Presbyterian
Church, 1333
Carthage Street,
Sanford

The son of Wilmington contractor Kelly Jewell, “Hop” Jewell had come to Sanford in 1918, and from 1920 to 1923 he worked with builder Joe W. Stout. In later years, Jewell’s firm built the 1949–50 Lewis D. Isenhour House at 300 Carbonton Road (one of the first Modernist residences in Sanford) and the North Carolina State University chancellor’s residence in Raleigh.[23]

MASEMORE, JOHN B.

John B. Masemore (b. ca. 1828), a resident of Chatham Street in Sanford in the 1880s, claimed to have built the first house in downtown Sanford.[24] Masemore also built the present Buffalo Presbyterian Church about 1880. Architecturally, the church exhibits similarities with several

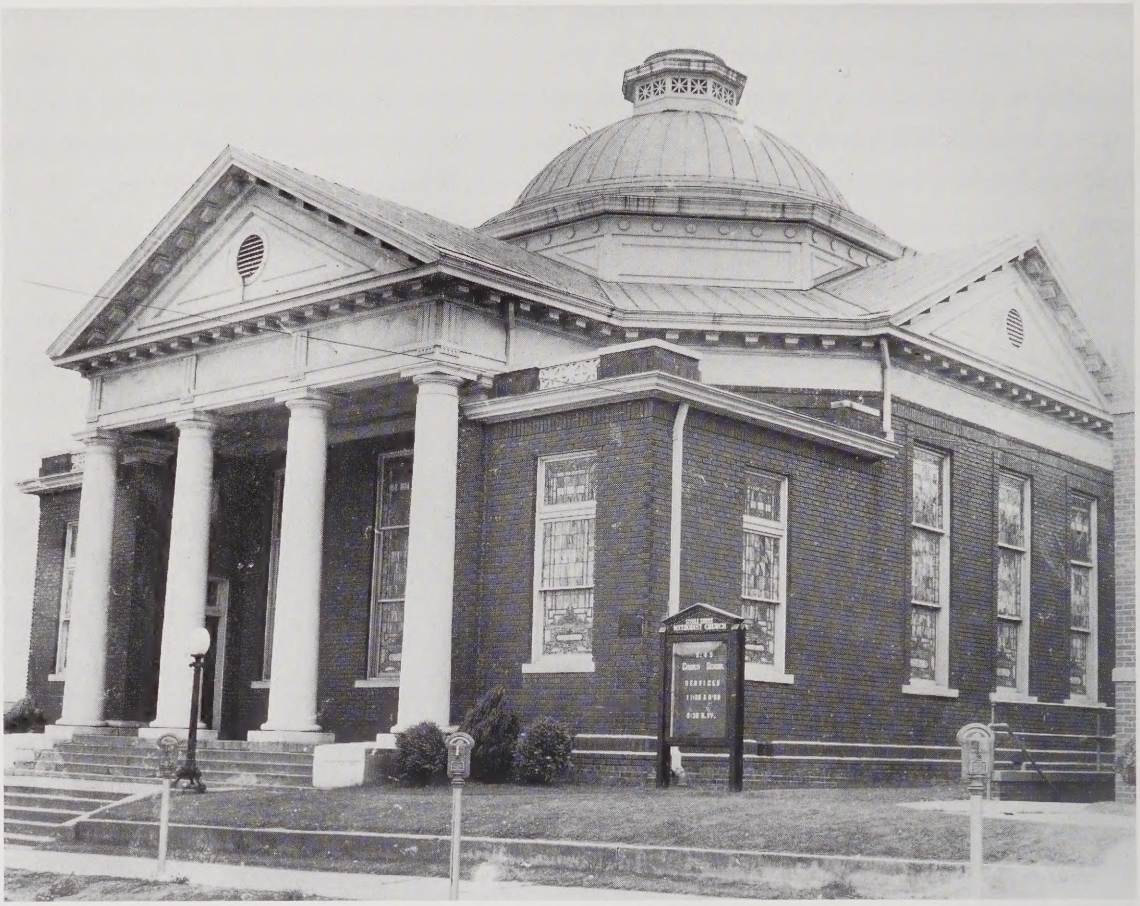


John B. Matthews, Jr. House, 300 Charlotte Avenue, Sanford, before modern alterations, photo early 1900s (Courtesy of Frances W. Sutton) buildings commissioned or remodeled by members of the McIver family during the 1880s: the Wesley and Jane C. McIver House (located near Buffalo Church), the John D. McIver House in Sanford, and McIver's Store in Sanford (demolished). Architectural evidence and the active involvement of the McIver family in the affairs of Buffalo Church suggest that Masemore may have undertaken various building projects for the McIver family during the late 1800s. Masemore remained active through the 1890s, mainly in present Chatham County.[25]

MATTHEWS, JOHN B., JR.

John Benjamin Matthews, Jr. (b. 1870), began building houses in his early twenties. His first known commission was the house he built in the early 1890s for his mother, Mary McIver Matthews, on Sanford's Third Street.[26] In 1897, Matthews was described as "a first-class contractor and workman" after completing the carpentry work on the Weatherspoon (or McPherson & Weatherspoon) Building, which formerly stood on the north corner of Charlotte and Hawkins avenues in Sanford.[27] A year later, Matthews built his own house at 300 Charlotte Avenue, a two-story frame dwelling with a projecting vestibule. In later years, Matthews built a number of houses on the 200 and 300 blocks of Charlotte Avenue (including 214 Charlotte), Sanford's

Gertrude M. Arnold House, 2116 Lee Avenue, Jonesboro



Steele Street Methodist Church (demolished), formerly stood on South Steele Street, Sanford, photo ca. 1950 (Courtesy of Jimmy Haire)

Methodist Parsonage (built in the early 1920s), and the 1922 Edwin L. and Mary Gavin House at 305 Hawkins Avenue—one of Lee County's finest Classical Revival residences—which, like Matthews's own house, features a projecting vestibule.[28]

McBRYDE, JAMES A. AND NAPOLEON N.

Known as the McBryde Brothers, James A. "Jim" and Napoleon N. McBryde were especially active in Jonesboro; among their earliest known commissions was the 1889 John N. and Isabella Barnes House at 2517 South Academy Street.[29] James A. McBryde (ca. 1863–1936) built the James P. and Nora McDavid House near Jonesboro in the early 1920s, and he was apparently involved in the construction of the 1927 Roy G. Sowers House at 2122 Lee Avenue, the 1928 Gertrude M. Arnold House at 2116 Lee Avenue, and the Nannie M. Williams House at 303 West Main Street (all in Jonesboro).[30] Napoleon N. McBryde (b. ca. 1857), who lived in Sanford from before 1890 until at least the late 1910s, was apparently responsible for the construction of the 1917 Frederic P. Strong House, a story-and-a-half brick house at 301 North Gulf Street in Sanford.[31]

STOUT, JOE W.

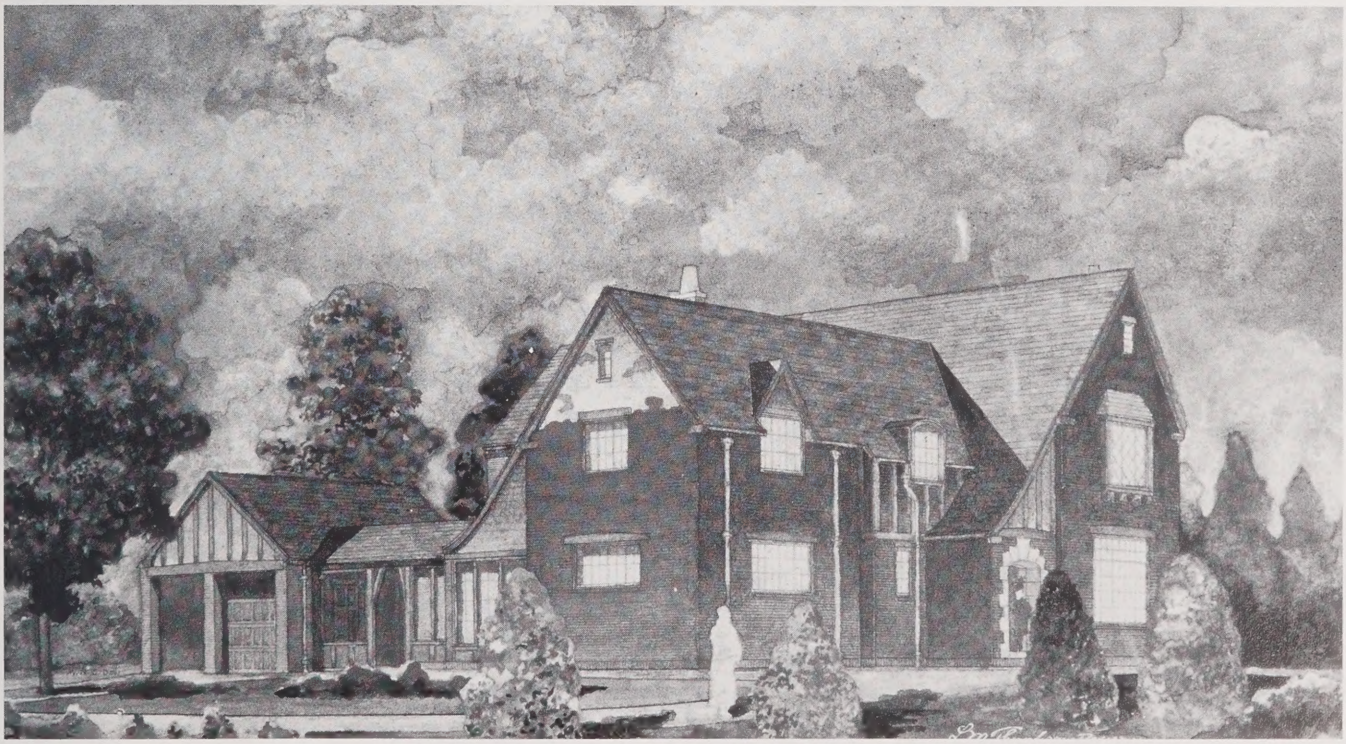
Randolph County native Joe W. Stout (d. 1933) came to Sanford during the first decade of the twentieth century; in 1906 he and two other brickmasons worked on the construction of the

West Sanford School.[32] Stout's first major commission appears to have been the Sanford Municipal Building, built in 1909–10. (Robert T. Walker also played an important role in the construction of this building.)[33] Another early commission was the Steele Street Methodist Church, a domed brick building constructed in the late 1910s to replace an earlier frame church on the 200 block of South Steele Street.[34] To ensure that his growing practice had an adequate supply of bricks, Stout was one of several businessmen who incorporated the Cumnock Brick Company in 1919.[35]

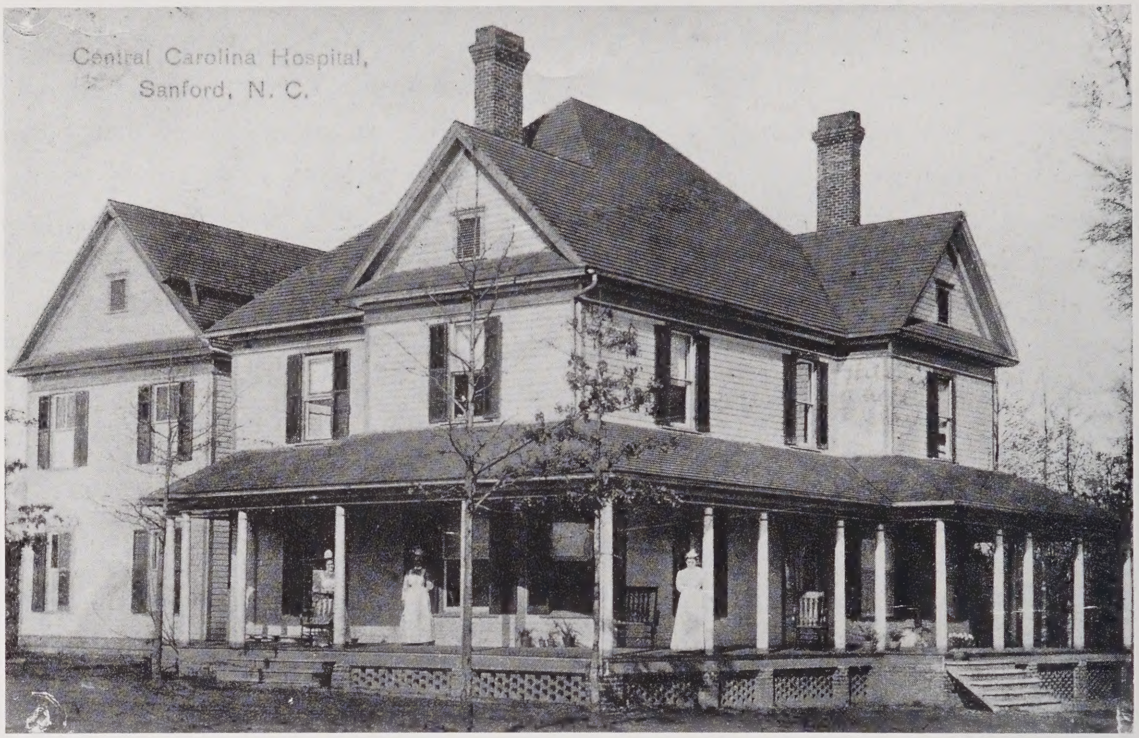
By the 1920s, J. W. Stout & Company had become Lee County's largest general contractor and an important construction firm statewide. The principal buildings erected in Sanford's downtown during the 1920s—among them the Hotel Wilrik, the Masonic Temple, and the Temple Theatre—were built by the firm, and Stout built courthouses, banks, hotels, schools, and health care facilities throughout North Carolina and adjoining states.[36] In 1923, Stout was elected the first vice president of the North Carolina chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America; in 1924, he became the chapter's second president.[37] When he died in August 1933, Stout was eulogized by the local press as "one of the most successful and skillful contractors in the state."[38]

THOMPSON, L. M.

Architect L. M. Thompson started out in the 1910s working as a designer with the Sanford Sash & Blind Company.[39] In the 1920s he designed several prominent buildings in the Sanford business district, among them the 1924–25 Masonic Temple at 130–132 Carthage Street, the 1927–29 Carolina Hotel at 102 Carthage Street, and the 1928 Stroud-Hubbard Building at 112 South Steele Street. The Carolina Hotel and the Stroud-Hubbard Building feature polychrome



L. M. Thompson's watercolor rendering of his own residence, 1215 Bickett Drive, Sanford, made prior to its construction about 1929 (Courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Zawalich)



Original Central Carolina Hospital (demolished), formerly stood at the corner of Maple Avenue and Fourth Street, Sanford, photo ca. 1910

terra-cotta accents and are characterized by Gothic and Tudor Revival detailing. A Thompson trademark, Tudor Revival detailing also appears in his domestic architecture, specifically in the 1928 Harry and Lillian Isaacson House at 506 Sunset Drive, the 1928–29 Edward C., Jr., and Ethel S. Heins House at 410 North Gulf Street, the 1929 Lewis D. Isenhour House at 318 Summit Drive, and Thompson's own residence at 1215 Bickett Drive, built about 1929. At one point in his career Thompson was associated with an architect or engineer named Cutter.

Thompson appears to have relied at least in part on the designs of other architects. For the Heins House he used working drawings for "The Devonshire," a design published by the Common Brick Manufacturers of America. Thompson made minor alterations to the design—simplifying some details, eliminating a porch, and substituting brick tile for concealed brickwork—but otherwise he remained faithful to the spirit of the house's anonymous designer. (It is possible that Thompson drew up the plans of The Devonshire for the Common Brick Manufacturers and that the Heins House was intended to showcase the design.) Thompson's own house and another commission—the 1928–31 St. Thomas Episcopal Church at 312 North Steele Street—were built by Chatham County builder Oren Zeddock Barber, who also built the Lakeview Hotel in Moore County and houses in Chapel Hill, Goldston, Pittsboro, and other communities outside Lee County.[40] Another church attributed to Thompson is the 1927 Moore Union Christian Church, built by J. W. Stout & Company in the Buckhorn Falls vicinity.[41]

WALKER, ROBERT T.

Robert T. Walker (1861–1915) may have been Sanford's most prolific home-builder during the early years of the twentieth century. Walker's son, the late Silas Walker, identified many of the houses built by his father, among them the W. F. Chears House at 223 Charlotte Avenue; the ca. 1900 Francis and Annie W. Deaton House at 304 Oakwood Avenue; the U. L. Robinson

Robert T. Walker
from a ca. 1900
painting

House at 208 South Third Street, possibly built in the last year of Walker's life; the Connor H. Smith House at 500 Hawkins Avenue (demolished), which may have been built in 1895; and the ca. 1907 A. Cameron House, better known as the original Central Carolina Hospital, which formerly stood on the north corner of Maple Avenue and Fourth Street.[42] Walker assisted Joe W. Stout in the construction of the Sanford Municipal Building in 1909–10, and he may also have been responsible for the construction of the John R. Jones House at 402 Hawkins Avenue, the house at 309 Maple Avenue, and the house at 400 McIver Street.[43] Walker's obituary stated, "We have heard men say that after telling him what they wanted, they would not hesitate to have him build them a house without a formal contract."[44]

UNDERWOOD, HERBERT

Franklin County native Herbert Underwood came to Sanford to work as a designer for the Sanford Sash & Blind Company. Underwood designed houses and churches throughout the Carolinas; the front entry surrounds and mantels of several Colonial Revival–style Sanford residences are also attributed to him and were designed for Sanford Sash & Blind's successor, the Makepeace Millwork Company. In 1938, Underwood designed and built his own residence at 1313 Bickett Road, said to be the third house erected in McCracken Heights.[45] Underwood also completed projects for the Steele Street Methodist Church in Sanford, including the design of a Tudor Revival–style educational wing completed in 1941 (demolished).[46]

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APPENDIX

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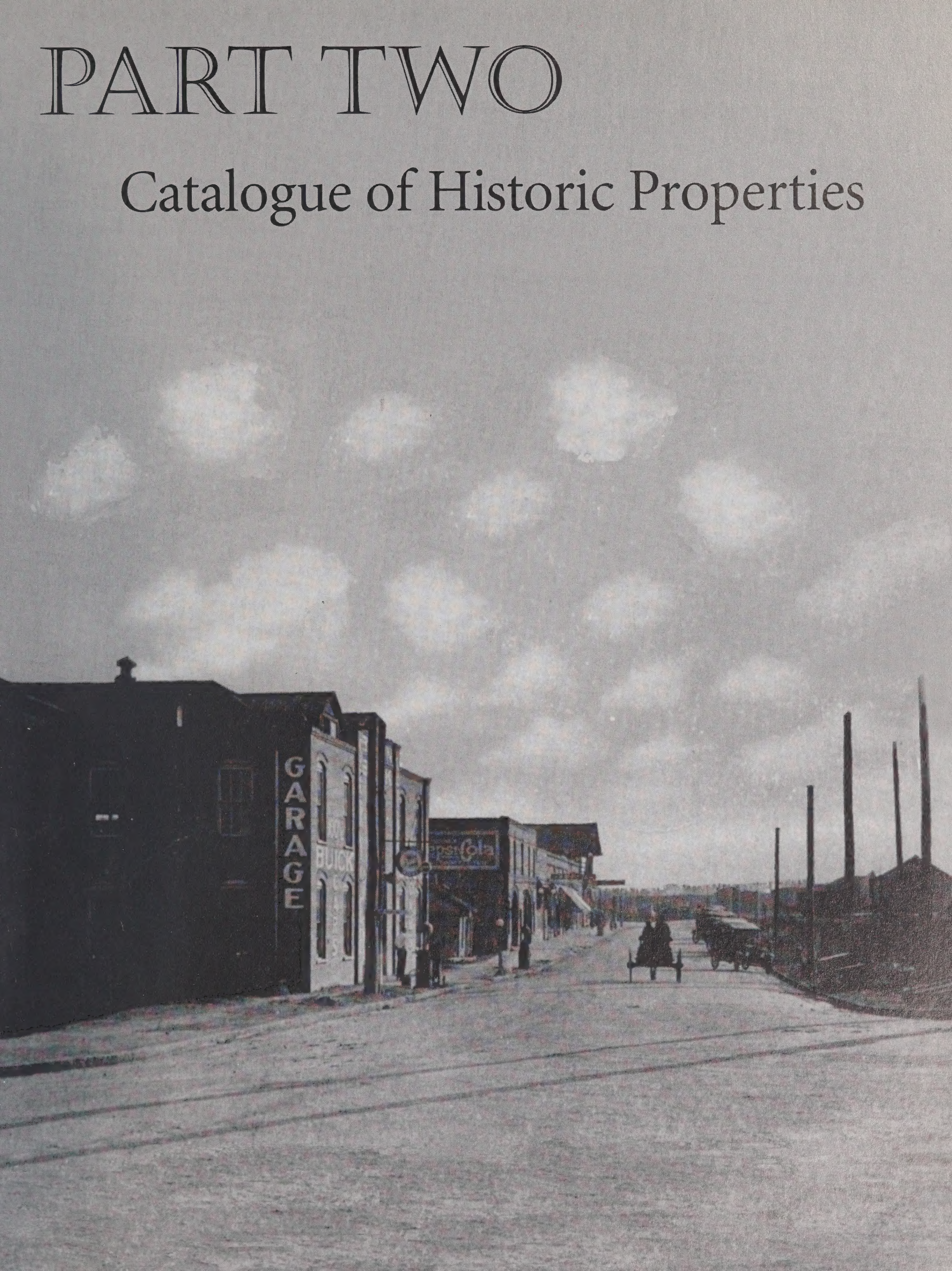
(Opposite)
Chatham Street, Sanford, early twentieth-century postcard view

PART TWO

Catalogue of Historic Properties



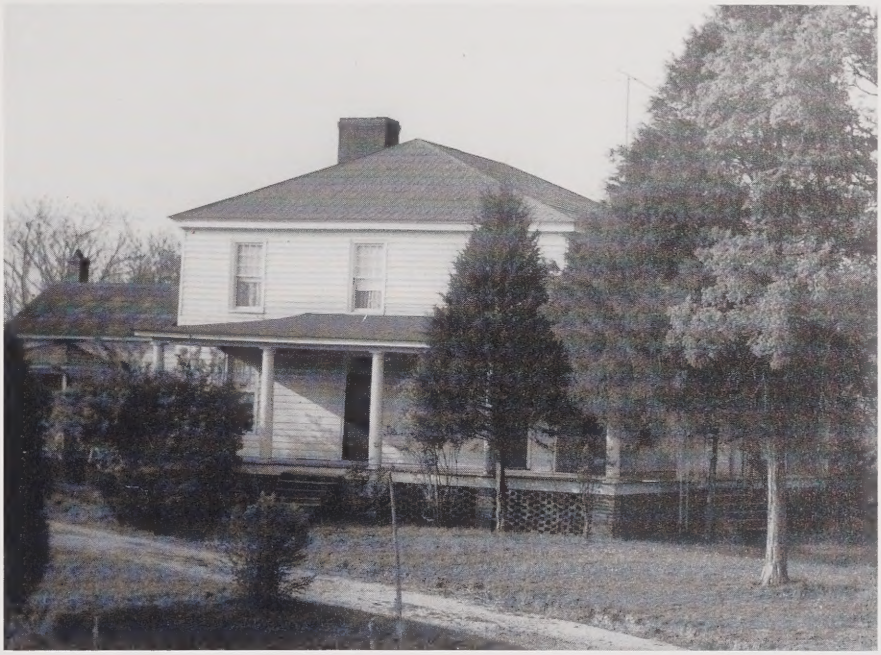
STOKES-BRYAN HOUSE

SR 1011
Blacknel vicinity
Ca. 1795

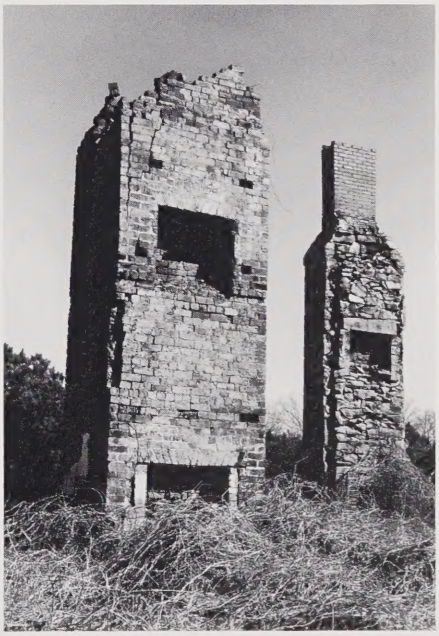
Two chimneys—one of stone and one of brick—are the only remaining aboveground vestiges of the Stokes-Bryan House, which is believed to have been Lee County's oldest surviving dwelling before it burned in the 1980s. The earliest section of the house was built for Thomas Stokes, who in 1794 purchased 350 acres "lying on the south side of Deep River opposite to the lands of John Ramsey." Stokes, a partner in John Ramsey's nearby mill, was listed in the 1790 census as the fourth largest slaveholder in Chatham County. In 1840, Edgecombe County native Elias Bryan moved to Chatham County for health reasons and purchased the property. Bryan, a mill owner and Lee County's largest antebellum landowner and slaveholder, expanded the house before moving across the Deep River to the town of Haywood in 1860. In the early 1900s, the property was owned by former Lee County sheriff Samuel W. Womble.

The original section of the frame house, which measured 20 feet by 16 feet, was incorporated as a front room in the enlarged two-story house, which featured two-panel doors and other Greek Revival details and a hip roof. A former kitchen ell and a one-story wraparound porch supported by round columns appear to have been added by Sam Womble. The surviving chimneys at the site attest to the quality and antiquity of the house. The brick chimney has fireplaces with gauged jack arches and iron lintels—features belonging to the early 1800s or earlier. Standing near the ruins of the house are several frame farm buildings dating from the early 1900s. These include a pair of two-story barns or pack houses, a corncrib, and a shed. The Stokes-Bryan House stood above an important early crossing of the Deep River across from Ramsey's Mill and the early town of Lockville.

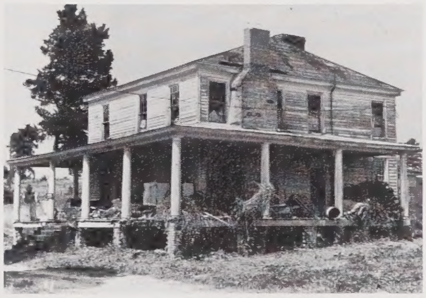
Owners: Jerry and Judith Nance and Rand G. and Sarah R. Schenck.
Sources: Edwin Patterson, "Stokes-Bryan House"; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; *Testimony . . . North Carolina*, 72–86; U.S. census schedules.



Stokes-Bryan House, photo ca. 1955



Surviving chimneys



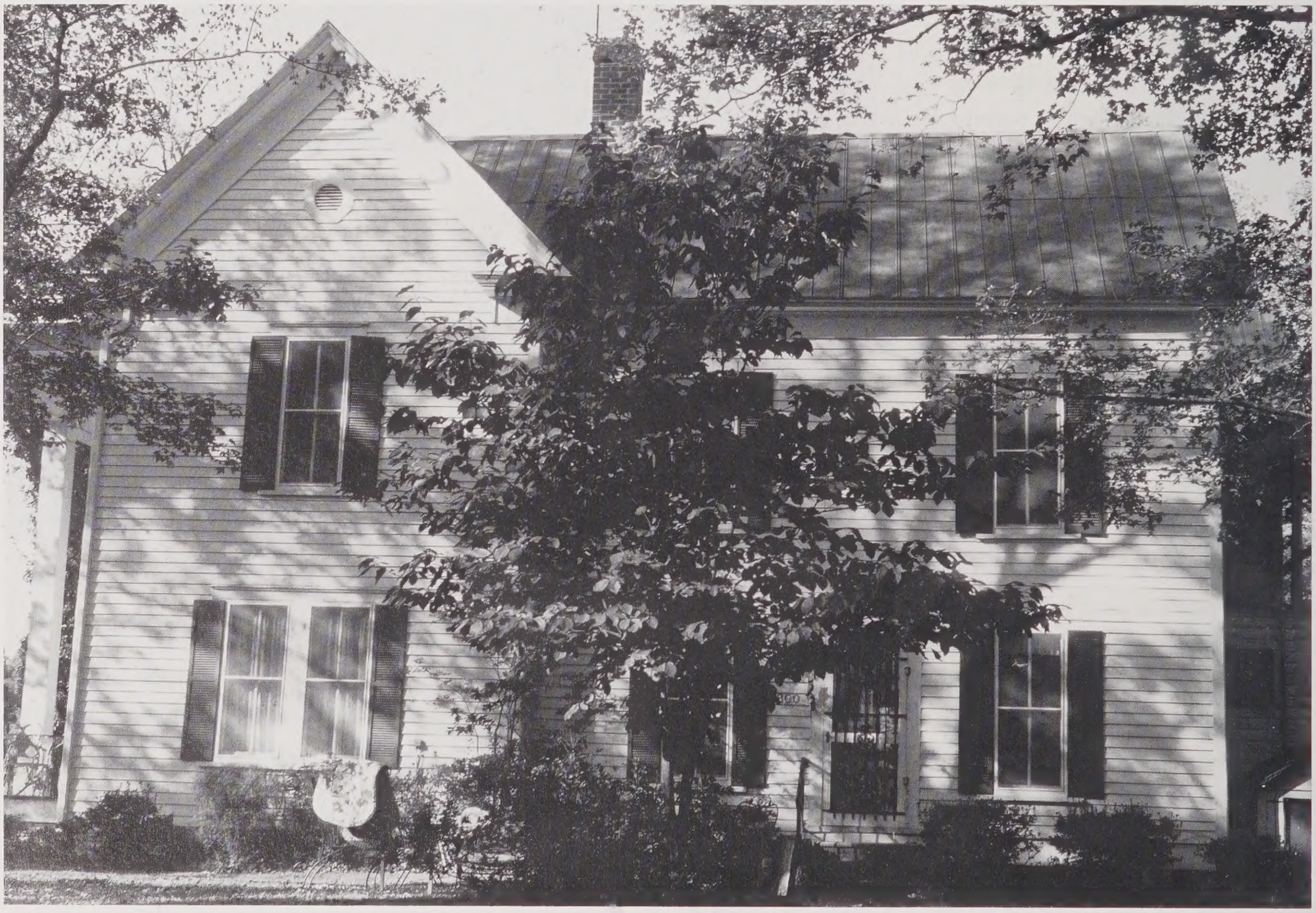
The house shortly before its destruction

800 North Plank Road (SR 1007)
Carbonton vicinity
Ca. 1800

The Palmer Farm is an enigmatic early property. Robert William Palmer (1774–1850), who was born in the famous Palmer-Marsh House in Bath, acquired five hundred acres on the Deep River in 1814. He and his wife, Nancy Anne Alston Palmer, may have built the two-story log dwelling that now forms the rear wing of the Palmer farmhouse. Or the log house may be older, perhaps dating from as early as the 1760s, when the farm was owned and occupied by John Thompson (d. 1772) and his wife, Hannah Bell Thompson. Thompson was a business associate of pioneer iron-maker John Willcox, whose iron works stood north of the farm on the south bank of the Deep River.

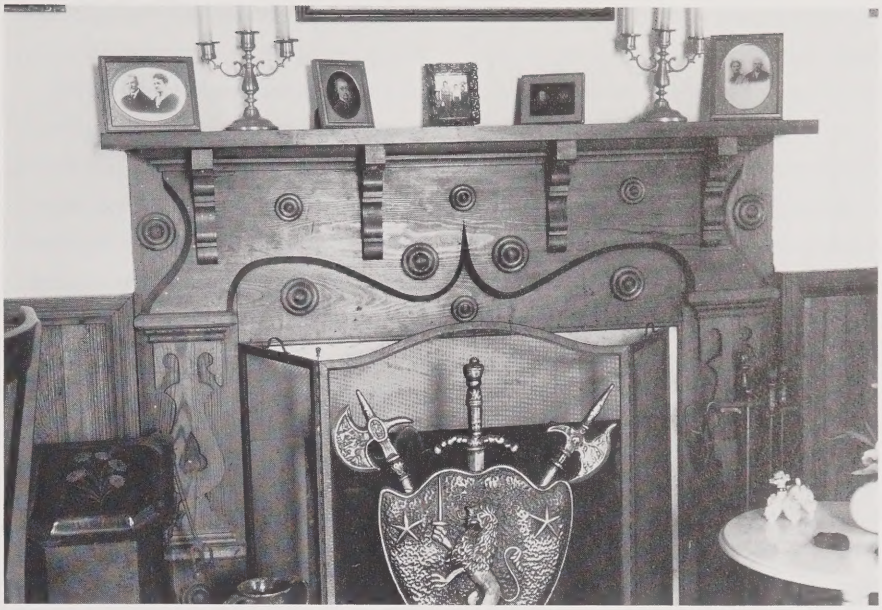
The Palmer log house originally featured a hall-parlor plan and a massive gable-end stone chimney with a fireplace said to have measured six feet across. On the six-panel and batten doors of the interior are hand-wrought latches, a wood and iron lockbox of a type observed in early-nineteenth-century contexts, and H&L hinges attached with hand-headed nails and leather washers—all features that could date to the late 1700s or early 1800s. In 1887, Oroon D. Palmer, Sr. (1843–1922), built a two-story frame section onto the west end of the log house. The 1887 section features elaborate Victorian mantels with cut-out pilasters, turned bosses, and chamfering. Another addition was a second-story schoolroom above an early shed room that extends across the back of the log section.

To the southwest of the house, beside the North Plank Road, is the Quaker Spring, a brownstone-lined spring pit with a graceful double flight of stone steps leading down into it. Nearer the house is a semi-subterranean brick structure—known in local parlance as a cellar—that was built before the mid-1800s for storing perishable food items. The Flemish-bond cellar has penciled mortar joints, closer bricks at the corners, and a

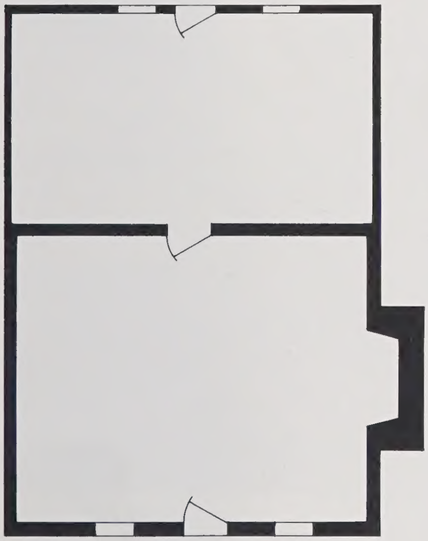


Palmer House, original section to the right segmental-arched entry—all features of high-quality late-eighteenth- or early-nineteenth-century construction. Other buildings include a large slatted corncrib dating from the late 1800s, and two ruinous tenant houses. The Palmer family cemetery is also located on the property. A kitchen (attached to the main house by a covered walkway), a meat house, a commissary, a carriage house, and two large livestock and feed barns formerly stood on the farm.

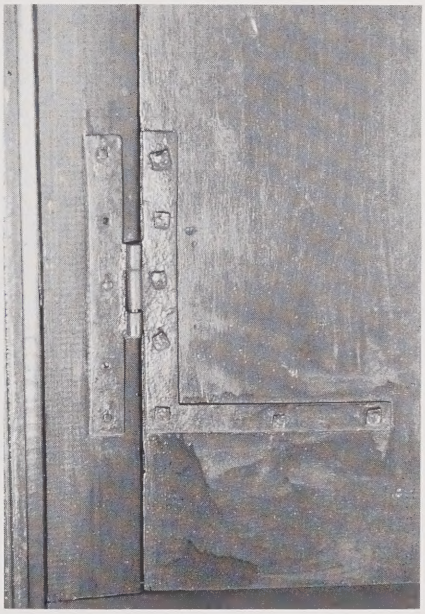
Owner: Oroon D. Palmer, Jr.
Sources: Oroon D. Palmer, Jr.; *Sanford Herald*, August 10, 1977, and July 13, 1993; Willcox, *John Willcox.*



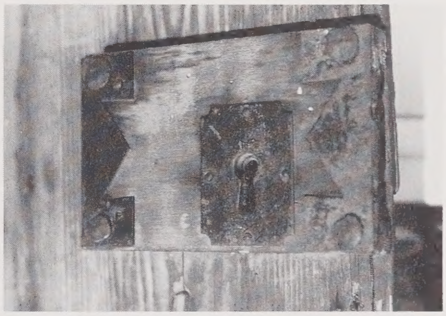
Mantel in 1887 section



Reconstructed first-story plan of the original log section of the Palmer House (Measured by J. M. Palmer; drawn by the author)



Door hardware in original section



Door hardware in original section

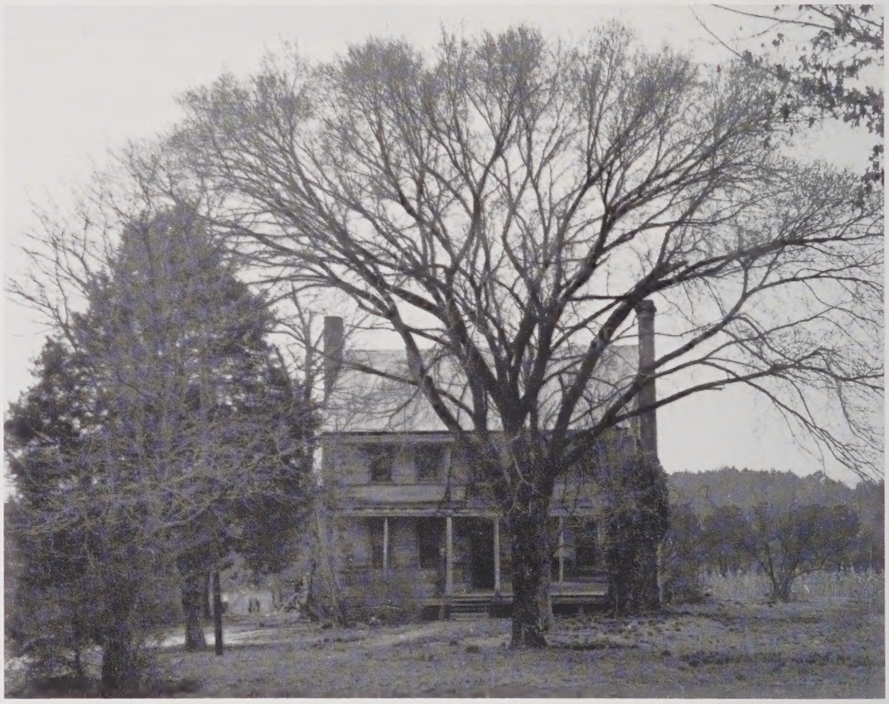
Woolard Road
Carbonton
Ca. 1800

The Tyson House, one of the county's most stylish early dwellings, stands at the center of the historic village of Carbonton. Documentary and architectural evidence suggests that the house was built by the Tyson family before 1805. Cornelius Tyson, Sr. (1722–94 or –95), acquired the land on which the house stands in 1765 and had apparently built a dwelling on the property by the time of his death. Aaron Tyson (1760–1805) inherited the property from his father and either occupied his father's house or built anew. With his brother, Benjamin Tyson, Aaron acquired the Connor Dowd Mill at Carbonton in 1791, and with Archibald McBryde and Murdock McKenzie he operated the Aaron Tyson & Company store, an important early business in the region. (The 1800 Moore County census schedules described Tyson's Store as "one of the most public places in the county.") The Tyson House was purchased about 1820 by Isaac Roberts, who later willed it to his daughter, Mary Chalmers Roberts Hayes, wife of William A. Hayes.

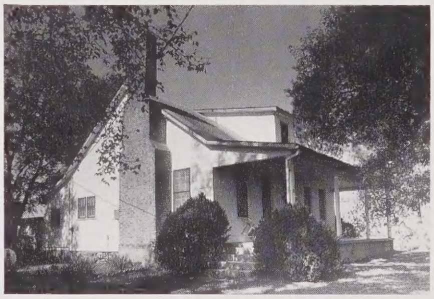
Originally, the frame Tyson House was a two-story dwelling with a two-tier front porch. In the 1950s, the second story was partially removed and made into a garret, and the house was given a new roof with a front shed dormer and engaged front porch that disguise it as a Craftsman bungalow. Original exterior features remain, however, most notably the five-bay front elevation, with its nine-over-nine-sash windows, and the Flemish-bond brick chimney on the south gable end, with its paved double shoulders and diamond motif formed by glazed headers.

Considerably more original fabric survives on the hall-parlor-plan interior. The hall features a paneled wainscot and a Georgian-style mantel with a simple architrave fireplace surround and a paneled overmantel. A portion of a paneled overmantel survives in the parlor, although the fireplace in that room was removed. Another notable feature is a winder stair that rises from a rear shed room. This stair has delicate beaded and faceted newels with globe finials, molded and beaded handrails, and close-set turned balusters. Renovation work on the Tyson House was begun by the Woolard family in the early 1990s.

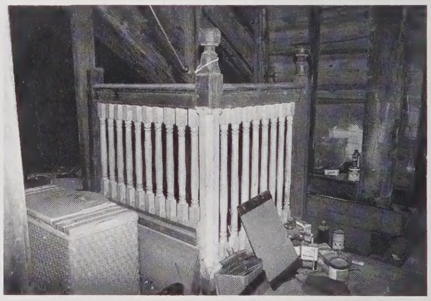
Owner: Jon Lee Woolard.
Sources: Edwin Patterson, "Tyson House"; Edwin Patterson and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Willcox, *John Willcox*; Willcox, "Carbonton"; Womble, *Diary of Jane Womble*; *Sanford Herald*, December 1, 1990.



Tyson House (Photo ca. 1950, courtesy of Margery B. Cole)



Tyson House



Upstairs stair balustrade (Photo by Michael T. Southern, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

5829 Carbonton Road (NC 42)
Carbonton
Ca. 1800

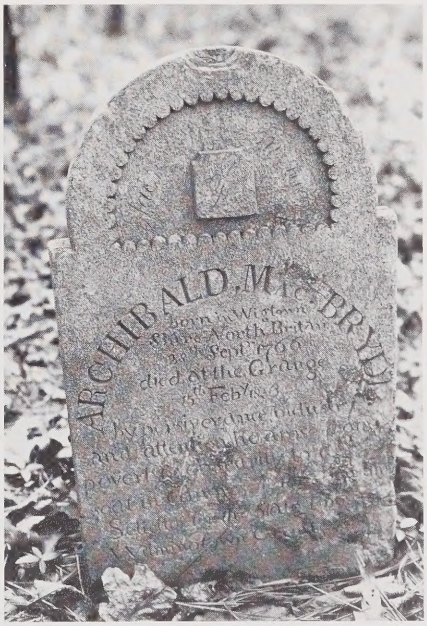
Archibald McBryde (1766–1836), a native of Wigtownshire, Scotland, acquired land from the Dowd family about 1800 and apparently had this two-story frame house built shortly thereafter on a knoll overlooking the Deep River bottomlands at Carbonton. The land had earlier belonged to Connor Dowd, a leading developer in the lower Deep River valley before the Revolution; Dowd's residence may have stood on the same site. Archibald McBryde served as Moore County clerk of court; he represented North Carolina District 7 in the U.S. House of Representatives for the years 1809–11 and 1812–13, and Moore County in the state senate in 1813–14. He was also a partner of Aaron Tyson and Murdock McKenzie in an early store near Carbonton. After McBryde's death, his widow, Lydia Ramsey McBryde, and several of his children followed other Carbonton-area families in migrating to Tennessee. McBryde's delicately carved gravestone stands in the nearby Farrar Cemetery.

The property was later owned by Dr. Charles Chalmers, and in 1864 Donald McRae of Wilmington moved his family to the house for protection during the Civil War. Confederate Captain George Willcox, a veteran of the Gettysburg campaign, purchased the property from the McRaes in 1884 and lived there with his wife, Isabella Catherine Palmer Willcox. A local leader in the Farmers Alliance, Willcox served in the N.C. House of Representatives in 1885 and was a partner in the Tyson & Willcox Store, established at Carbonton in the 1890s. After his death in 1913, the property passed to his son, Joseph Martin Willcox (1867–1947), a Lee County commissioner.

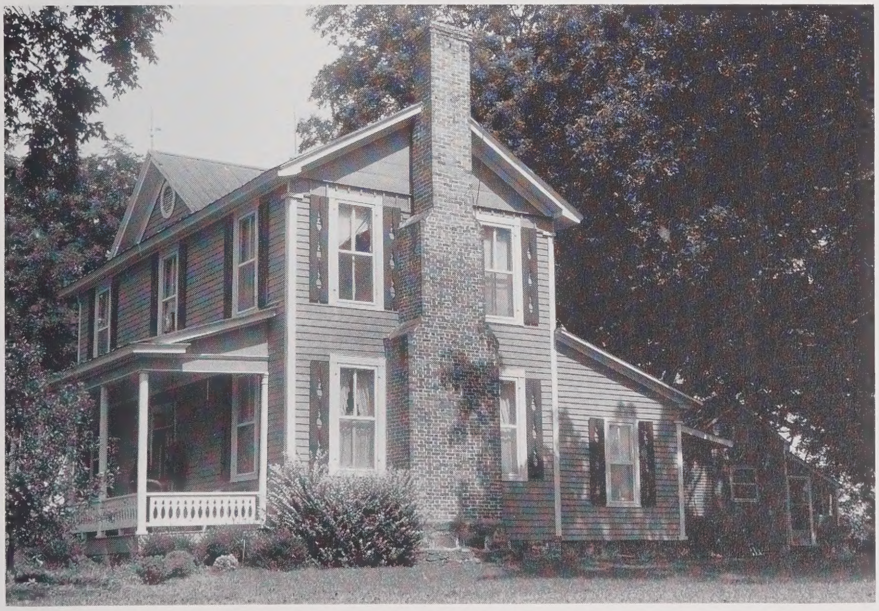
The McBryde-Willcox House combines architectural features from several periods. A Flemish-bond chimney with paved doubled shoulders dates to the original construction of the house, whereas Greek Revival window surrounds and an unusual paneled frieze indicate a late antebellum remodeling. Other features include a front porch supported by slender octagonal posts, gables sheathed with flush boards, and one-story rear wings added during the course of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. One wing has a large central chimney that suggests the wing was formerly used as a kitchen. The interior of the house was remodeled in recent years.

Owners: Bobby C. and Shelia M. Thomas.

Sources: Bobby C. Thomas; George W. Willcox, Edwin Patterson, and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Willcox, *John Willcox*; Willcox, "Carbonton"; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; *Central Express*, August 11, 1888; business directories.



Headstone of Archibald McBryde (or MacBryde), Farrar Cemetery, Carbonton vicinity



McBryde-Willcox House

1508 Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1815

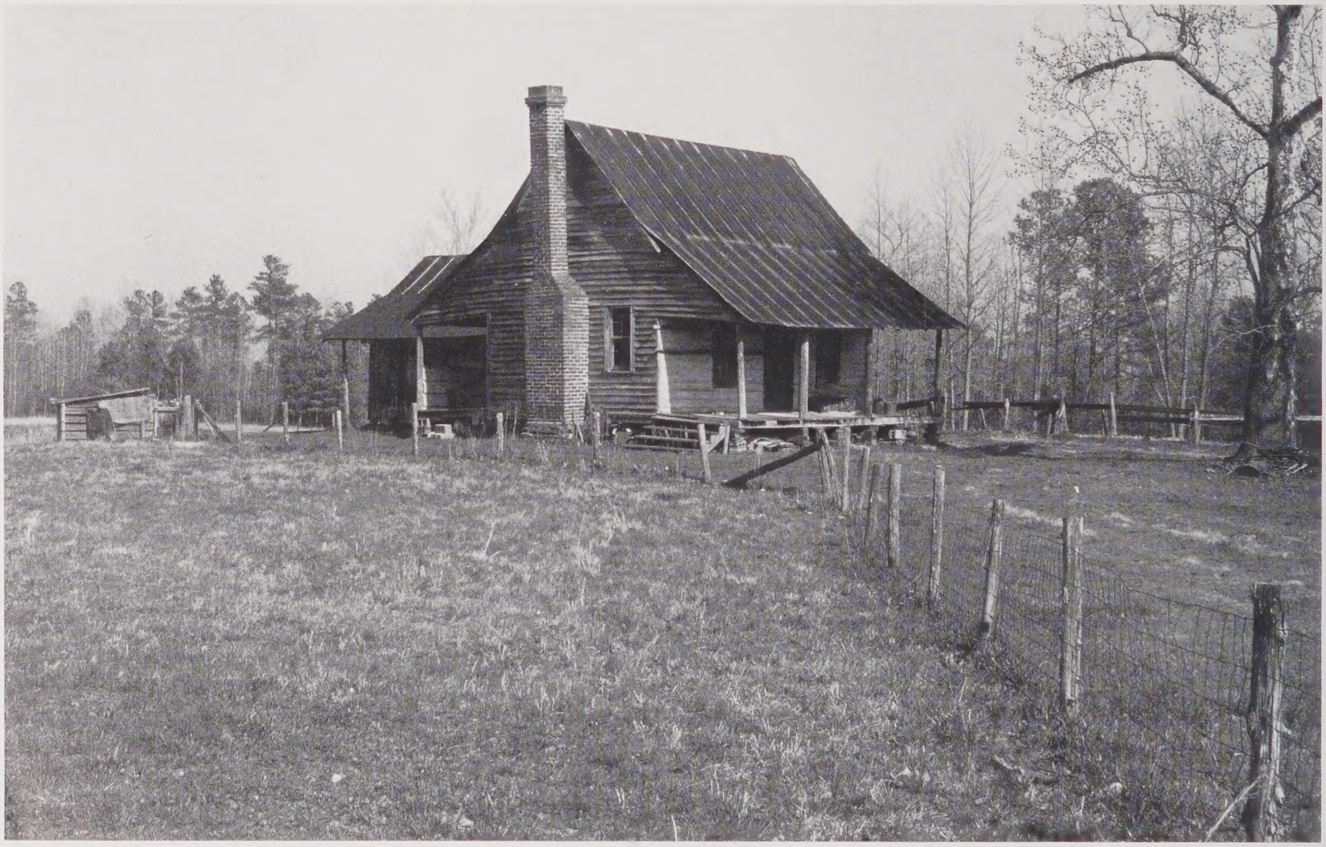
Archibald Douglas, Sr. (1772–1854), and Rosanna (Rosa) Edwards Douglas (1781–1857) probably built this small frame house about 1815, shortly after the couple moved to Lee County. Located on high ground above the Cape Fear River, the house was acquired in 1853 by Andrew Lett, who operated a mill nearby at Lett's Landing on the river.

The Douglas-Lett House is a classic example of a house type known as the "coastal cottage," a form associated with coastal North Carolina. Characteristics of the form exhibited by the house include its one story with garret height and a gable roof that extends to cover the front porch and the rear porch and shed room. A six-over-nine-sash window on the rear elevation and beaded weatherboards under the front porch date to the original construction of the house. Other notable features include a west gable-end brick chimney with a detached stack and a sandstone base, and turned wood porch columns. Behind the house, separated from it by a one-foot break, is a board-and-batten kitchen with a chimney constructed of stone and brick. The kitchen probably dates to the late 1800s.

The hall-parlor-plan interior contains both original and later elements. The hall is sheathed in unbeaded tongue-and-groove boards over the original straight-sawn boards and has a Victorian mantel with reeded pilasters. The parlor retains its early flush-board walls and board-and-batten ceiling, but it has lost its original boxed corner stair. Near the house are a gable-fronted frame bungalow dating to about 1950, several frame barns, the stone chimney of a former tenant house, a log corncrib, and the Douglas Cemetery. The cemetery contains the marble headstones of Archibald and Rosa Douglas and numerous quartzite and sandstone fieldstone markers. According to tradition, the fieldstones mark the graves of slaves; the Douglases owned at least eight slaves in 1852. Several graves are indicated only by piles of stones.

Owner: John Wesley Lett.

Sources: John Wesley Lett; Alvin Clegg and Edwin Patterson, Lee County historians; Vernie Womack, Broadway-area historian; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; Murchison, *Yesteryears*; Moore County tax records for 1852.



Douglas-Lett House

Off Dry Fork Road (SR 1303)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1825

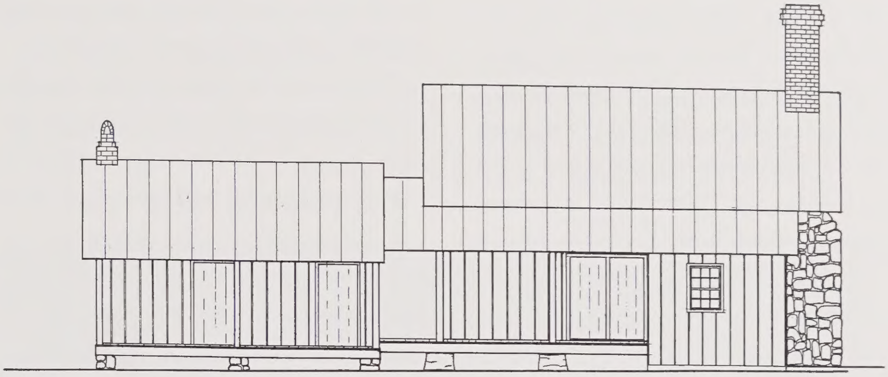
The now-abandoned and overgrown McGregor-Jackson House, apparently built in the 1820s for Daniel and Ginny McGregor, ranks among the county's more unusual early dwellings. The one-story, V-notched log house preserves evidence of a former board roof—an example of roofing with vertically or horizontally laid wood boards instead of shingles, a method that was once common in the North Carolina backwoods but is now rare. The McGregor-Jackson House and the Deaton House in Moore County are the only dwellings yet identified in the state with evidence of vertical board roofing. The roof has skinned pole rafters that are lapped and pegged at the ridge. Bored into the rafters at regular intervals are mysterious peg holes—some with pegs still in place—that appear to have supported horizontal members that in turn supported the board covering of the roof.

Other features of the house include lightwood (longleaf pine heartwood) foundation blocks, a stone chimney that probably replaced an earlier wooden chimney, board-and-batten siding, and a front porch that connects to the porch of a semidetached, board-and-batten kitchen. This kitchen was built about 1900 to replace a log kitchen. In the mid-1800s, the house passed to the Jackson family, who inserted a room into the south end of the front porch. The original plan of the house is difficult to determine, due to its remodeling as a weekend retreat during the twentieth century, but it is likely that the house had either a one-room plan or a hall-parlor plan.

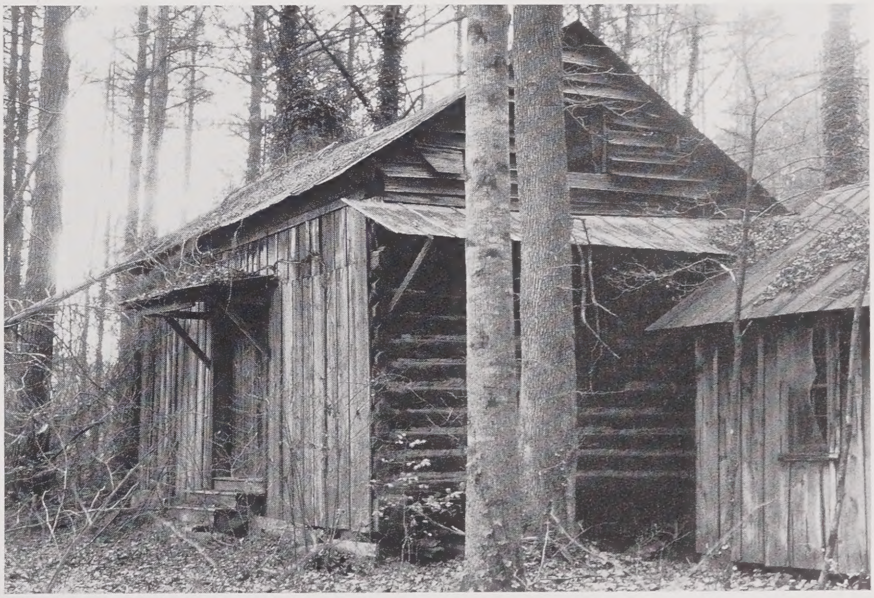
The main interior feature is a Rustic-style stone fireplace associated with the remodeling of the dwelling into "Scotland Lodge" by former owner Ollie Jackson Burns.

Owners: Stanley E. and Mona T. Henning.

Sources: Marvin Gaster and Edward T. Lawrence, Lee County historians; Burns, *Genealogy of O. J. Burns;* Moore County deed records; Jordan and Kaups, *American Backwoods Frontier.*



McGregor-Jackson House, drawing of front (west) elevation (Drawing by Allen Knight, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



Rear (east) elevation of house

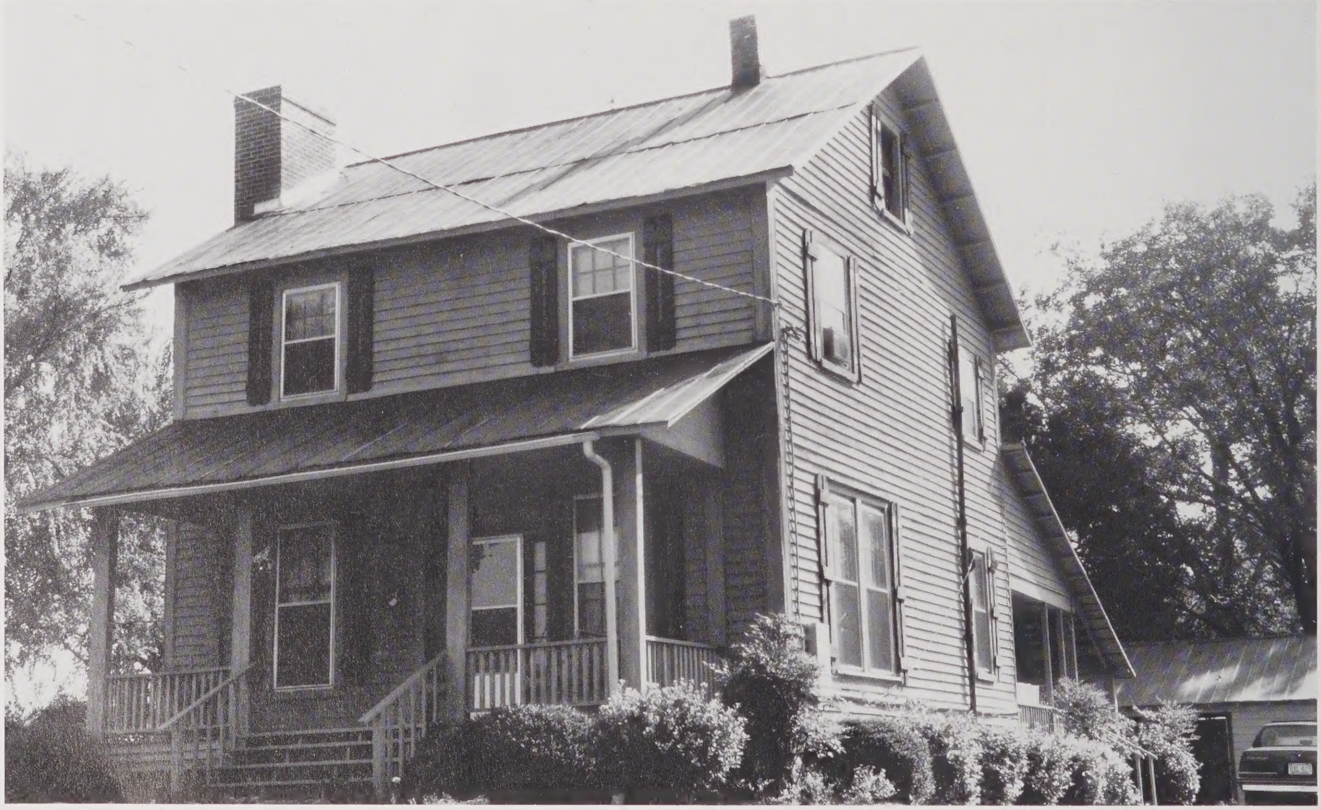
7219 Henley Road (SR 1305)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1825

Traditions differ as to the original owner of this two-story frame house. One account states that it was built for Kenneth Murchison in the 1790s, while another claims that it was built for Duncan Murchison (1776–1857), probably in the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The house once had a double-shouldered brick chimney, a feature typical of the late 1700s or early 1800s. Other stylistic features suggest a later date of construction or a major reworking, especially the wide corner boards and a partial frieze with large plain square blocks akin to corner pilasters and Doric frieze of more stylish houses built during the mid-1800s. In 1850–51, taxes went unpaid on the "Big Pocket Creek tract," as the property was known, and Moore County sheriff Kenneth H. Worthy sold the 522-acre farm to James Dixon Henley in 1863. During the early 1900s, the house was owned by James D. Henley's son, James Hooker "Jim" Henley. Jim Henley served as Lee County's second extension agent (1912–15), and his wife Mittie May served as the county's first home demonstration agent (1915). The Henley family operated a mill nearby on Big Pocket Creek during the 1800s and a farm store or commissary in the early 1900s.

The Murchison-Henley House has a bulky appearance created by its two-room-deep plan. The front porch has brownstone footers and thick wooden posts that may be original; the front entry has a transom and sidelights and is flanked by tall six-over-nine-sash windows. To the rear is an original or early ell. A modern double-shouldered brick chimney rises from a brownstone base in the same position as the original chimney. Although the interior of the house has been remodeled, it retains a mid-nineteenth-century Greek Revival two-panel front door and Greek Revival trim around the front entry. The two-room-deep plan features a range of full-sized rooms in front of smaller rear rooms. Across Henley Road from the house stands the small, deteriorated Henley Store.

Owners: Barry Lynn and Peggy C. Holt.

Sources: Moore County Deed Book 4, p. 541, and Deed Book 27, p. 524; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; *Sanford Express*, July 7, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, May 2, 1953; Lee County Agricultural Extension Service records; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; Eulalia Matthews, longtime area resident.



Murchison-Henley House

PAISLEY-SPIVEY FARM

South Plank Road (SR 1007)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1830

Presbyterian minister Samuel Paisley (b. ca. 1773) and his wife, Eleanor (b. ca. 1780), probably had this one-and-a-half-story frame house built during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. One account places the Paisleys at the location in 1838; by the late 1840s, the Paisleys owned 224 acres and several slaves. William R. and Levinia Spivey, who acquired the property at midcentury, sold the 187-acre farm in 1889 to their son, Jess D. Spivey (d. 1932). He operated a store and a steam-powered cotton gin on the property, and a water-powered gristmill and sawmill at the nearby headwaters of Little Pocket Creek.

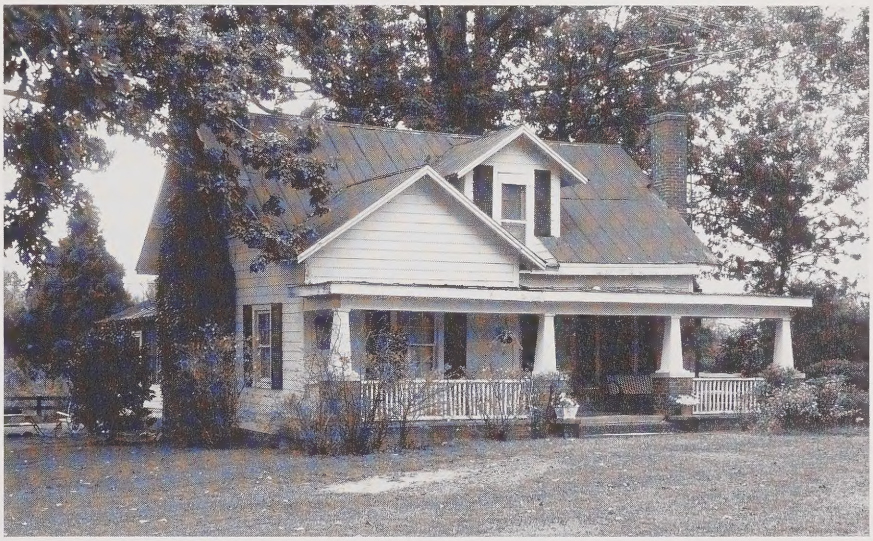
The exterior of the house is dominated by a massive brownstone and brick chimney that serves corner fireplaces. On the opposite gable end rises a smaller brownstone chimney, and a Craftsman porch dating to the second quarter of the twentieth century extends across the front. The irregular two-room-deep interior features an unusual Georgian- or Federal-influenced architrave mantel with four square panels above the fireplace opening; a more conventional Federal mantel with raised panels in the frieze; and a Craftsman brick mantel.

Near the house is J. D. Spivey's store, a two-story frame building said to have been built about 1856 as Center Methodist Church. Local farmer James Jackson and his sons may have assisted in the construction of this building. The church was moved from its original site up the South Plank Road to the Spivey farm. A porch with a wood-shingle roof extends across the front of the building, and a one-story shed room once used for storage extends down one side. The front entry has a Greek Revival two-panel door, and the windows are hung with batten shutters.

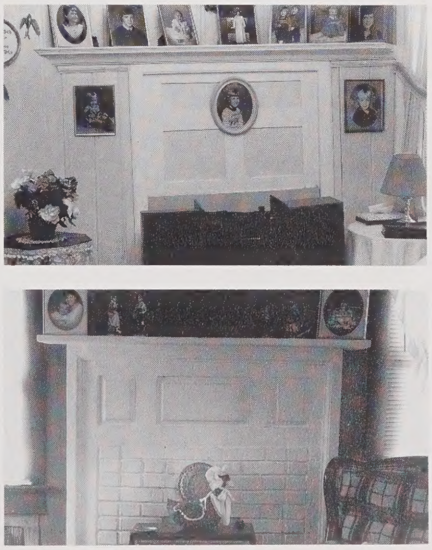
Spivey sold general merchandise and occasional specialty items, such as salted mullets at Easter. Like many merchants of the late 1800s, he kept a turpentine barrel in his store into which his farmer customers poured the dippings from their boxed pines. When the barrel was full, it was carted off to a distiller. The Spivey Store also served as the post office for Gilbert, N.C., during the early 1900s.

Owner: Pamela H. Gaines.

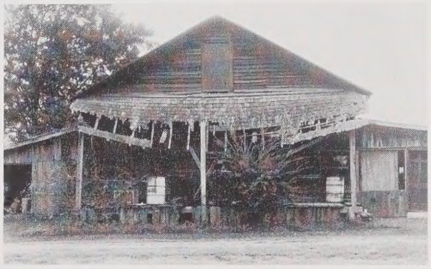
Sources: John Gaines; Irene Spivey, longtime area resident; James Vann Comer and Marvin Gaster, Lee County historians; Wicker, "Map of the Region of Moore County, 1747 to 1847"; Burns, *Genealogy*, 45; Moore County Deed Book 11, p. 342; Lee County Grants, 1787–1889; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*: cover, 17; U.S. census schedules.



Paisley-Spivey House



First-story mantels



Jess D. Spivey Store (former Center Methodist Church)

COOK-CAMPBELL HOUSE

2204 Courtland Drive
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1840

Joseph Cook (1796–1857) and his wife Tabitha (b. ca. 1812) are the apparent original owners of this antebellum frame house. In 1850, a young farmer named John M. Campbell (b. ca. 1835) lived with the Cooks. Later Campbell acquired the property, and after serving as a physician in the Confederate forces during the Civil War, he returned to practice in the Jonesboro area.

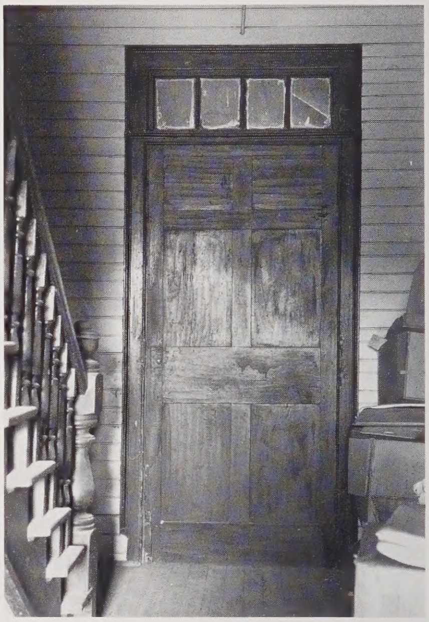
The original part of the house is the front section: a two-story one-room-deep dwelling with a center-passage plan. Original features of this section include nine-over-six-sash windows, Federal–Greek Revival mantels with single frieze panels, a six-panel back door with a four-light transom, and hewn mortise-and-tenoned framing members. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century, a second range of rooms was added across the back of the original section, giving the completed house its present boxy hip-roofed form. These rooms have Greek Revival mantels, six-over-six-sash windows, and two-panel doors. The interior also features miscellaneous Victorian details, such as ornate mantels and a center-passage stair with turned newels and balusters.

Near the house stand domestic and farm outbuildings, including a saddle-notched log washhouse or pig-scalding shed, a corncrib with a side drive-through, and a frame tenant house. In a field to the south of the house is the finely crafted brownstone monument of Joseph Cook (1796–1857).

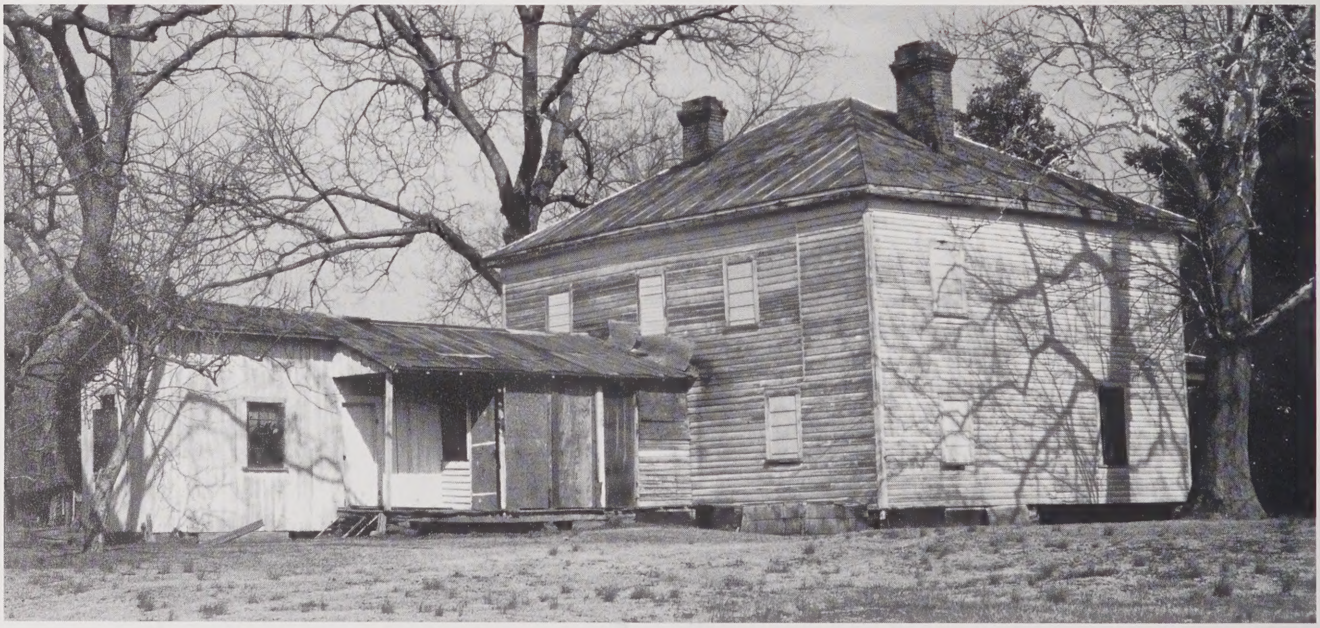
Near the Cook-Campbell House, farther south on Courtland Drive, stands the home of Winship Bryan (1801–1874) and his wife Nancy McIver (ca. 1797–1872). The two-story frame house features pegged rafters and other evidence of an antebellum date of construction. Today the house is most often associated with Elva Bryan McIver (1876–1959), an educator and pillar of the Presbyterian church.

Owner: John J. McIver.

Sources: Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; Ann Yarborough; *Sanford Herald*, February 9, 1933; Moore County Deed Book 28, pp. 6, 7; U.S. census; business directories.



Door at back of center passage



Cook-Campbell House

N. H. PERRY HOUSE (EVANS HOUSE)

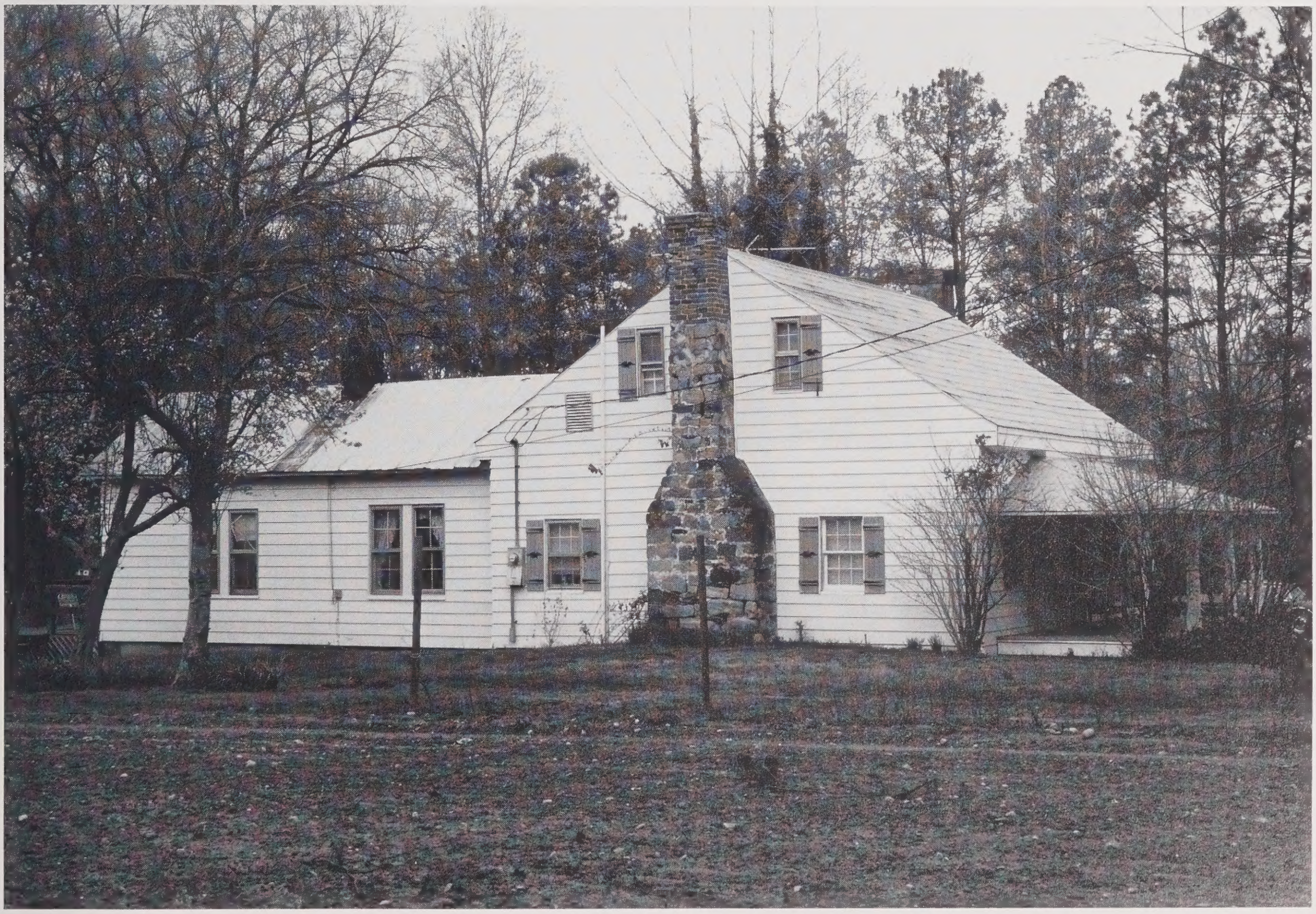
5625 Cumnock Road (SR 1400)
Cumnock
Ca. 1840

Peter Evans of Edgecombe County acquired over a thousand acres in the Egypt (later Cumnock) vicinity in 1826 and additional parcels over the following decades. This one-and-a-half-story frame house was built on the Egypt plantation, as the Evans family holdings were known, and there is a tradition that the house was occupied by the Evans family. The village of Egypt grew up around this house and the nearby Egypt Big House (Henszey House) during the 1850s and 1860s. In the early 1900s, the house and twenty-two acres were owned by N. H. Perry.

The house is characterized by stone chimneys that rise on the two gable ends. The north chimney is parged and scored with penciled "mortar joints" to simulate brickwork; the south chimney has steep sloped shoulders above the first-story firebox, and a brick upper stack. Inside, the house has a two-room-deep plan, with larger front rooms and smaller rear rooms, and evidence of a former center passage. The principal stair features an unusually tall balustrade, with square balusters and a beaded rail, and a slender square newel post at its foot. The mantel in the north first-story room is constructed of boards with unusual stepped motifs at the corners, perhaps an individualized rendition of corner blocks. The vernacular Greek Revival character of this mantel suggests that the house was built during the late antebellum period—possibly in the 1850s, when development activity at Egypt increased—but it may also represent part of a remodeling of an earlier dwelling.

Owner: Jack R. Hall, Jr.

Sources: Max Hall, Cumnock historian; Edwin Patterson and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Chatham County Deed Book A-C1, p. 86; Lee County Plat Cabinet 2, p. 18.



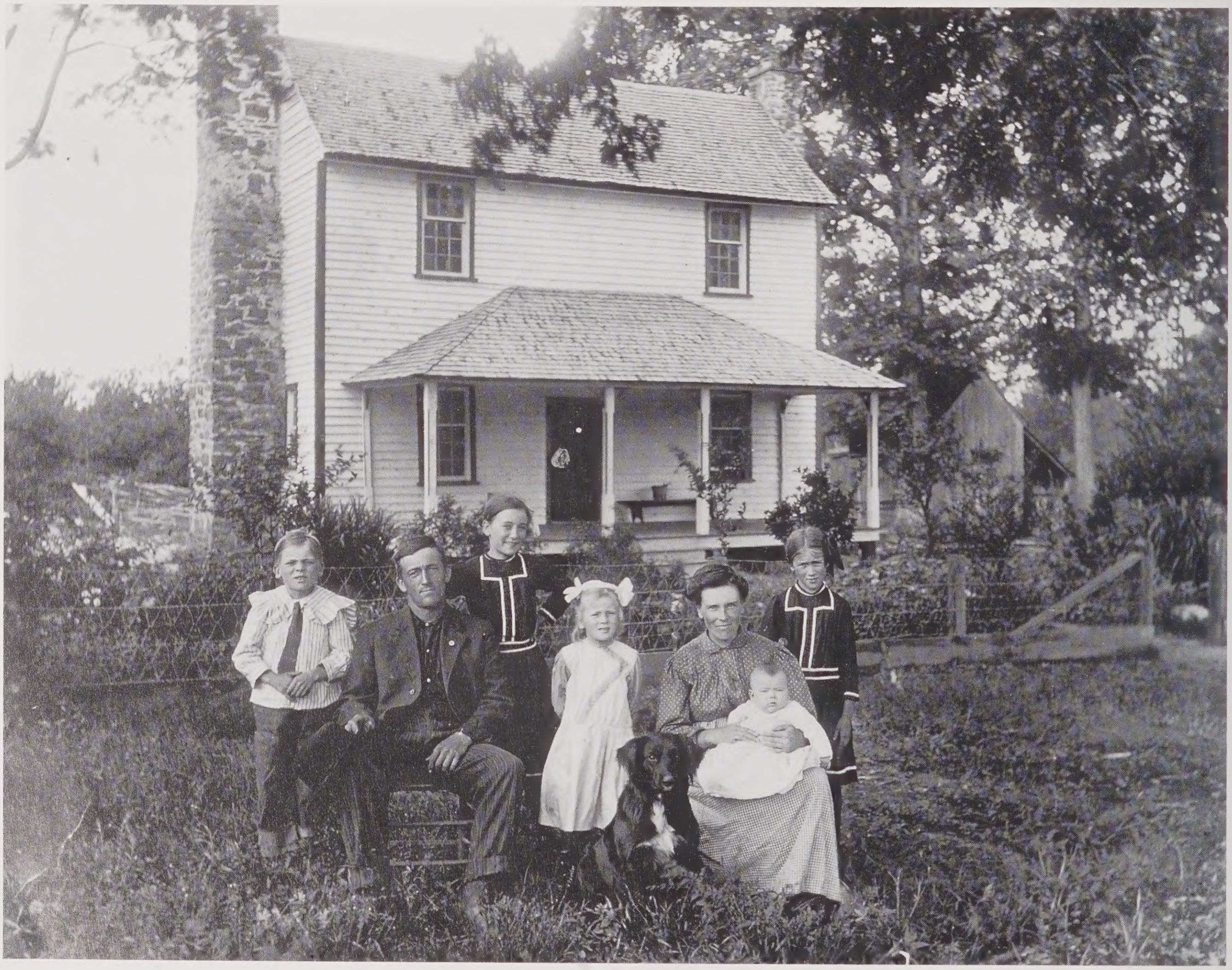
N. H. Perry House

4521 Hawkins Avenue (US 15–501)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1845

Until it was recently demolished, the Gilmore-Johnson House stood on a bluff overlooking the Deep River near the US 15–501 bridge. The house was apparently built for Stephen Gilmore (d. 1849), probably about the time of his marriage to Sarah Harrington (1794–1871) in the 1840s. After Stephen's death, Sarah married a Woodard, perhaps James Woodard. In her later years, again widowed, Sarah was cared for by Minter G. and Delia Harrington Johnson. Johnson, a Confederate veteran who had fought at Gettysburg, acquired the property on Sarah's death in 1871 and remodeled the house, as indicated by a chimney dated "1873." The property passed to the Johnsons' daughter, Minnie Mae Johnson, and her husband, A. D. Burns, Sr., before 1914.

The two-story frame house featured a reworked front porch and a one-story, board-and-batten ell that was formerly separated from the main house by a breezeway. The house originally featured a center-passage plan, but the first story was converted to a two-room plan during the twentieth century. Downhill is the Gilmore-Woodard Cemetery, a small plot enclosed by a finely constructed brownstone wall. The two identified graves in the cemetery, those of Stephen Gilmore and Sarah Woodard, are marked by simple marble headstones probably carved at the George Lauder works in Fayetteville.

Owner of property: Mildred Burns.
Sources: Mildred Burns; Martha Harrington and Edwin Patterson, Lee County historians; "Map of the Deep River Coal Field"; business directories.



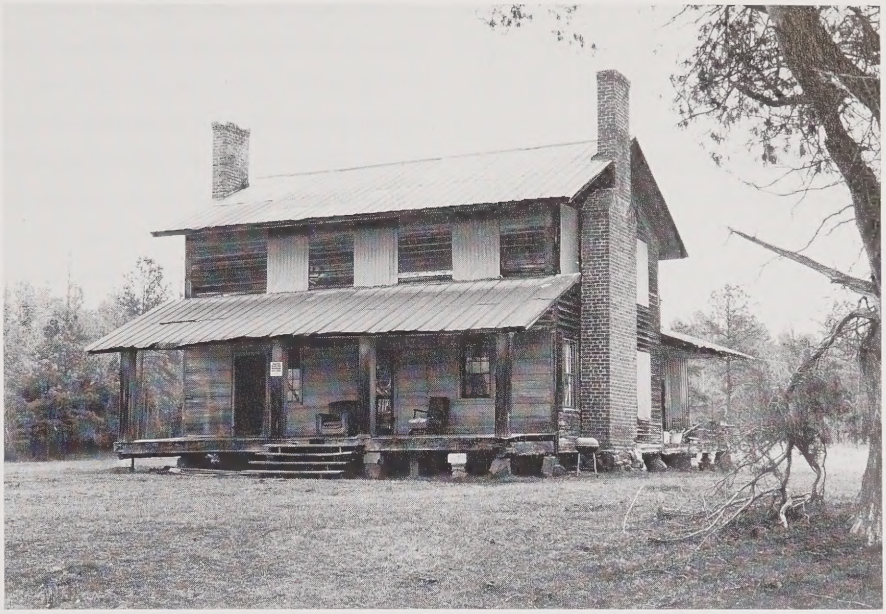
Gilmore-Johnson House (Photo ca. 1914, courtesy of Martha H. Harrington)

McLEOD HOUSE

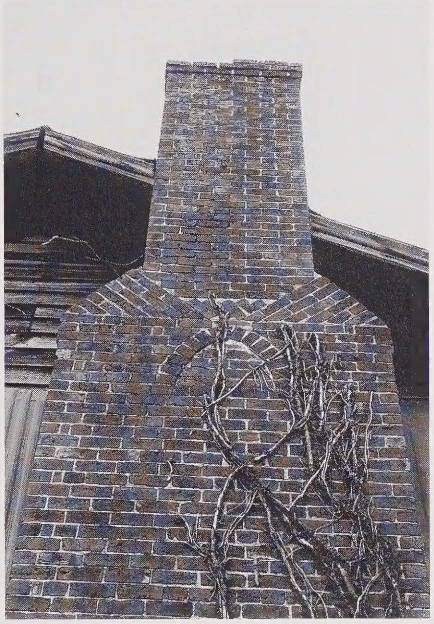
Poplar Springs Church Road (SR 1537)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1845

The McLeod House is an early example of a group of Greek Revival farmhouses with decorative chimney treatments, all located in the northeastern quadrant of Lee County. Possibly built for Thomas Alexander McLeod, the two-story frame house has gable-end brick chimneys with tumbled shoulders and herringbone and arched brick panels at the level of the shoulders. The top of the south chimney's stack bears the painted date "1846" or "1847." Other features of the house include a front porch with reconfigured original square wood columns, a semidetached rear kitchen with a parged stone chimney, and Greek Revival mantels. Behind the house stands a mortise-and-tenoned frame farm building, possibly a granary.

Owner: Lex B. Hunter.
Sources: Edward T. Lawrence and Edwin Patterson, Lee County historians; *Sanford Herald*, November 4, 1974.



McLeod House



North chimney

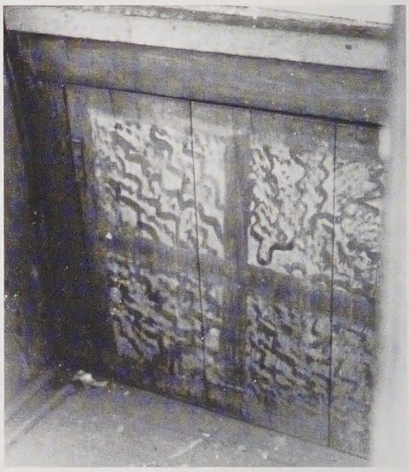
Petty Road (SR 1324)
Sanford
Ca. 1850

John Jackson Gilmore (1817–80) and Phebe Chandler Gilmore (ca. 1810–73) built this two-story frame house during the late antebellum period. Gilmore, a prominent landowner in the Cool Springs Church vicinity, also operated a gristmill and sawmill on nearby Patterson Creek. An early trustee of Cool Springs Baptist Church, Gilmore donated the land on which the church stands.

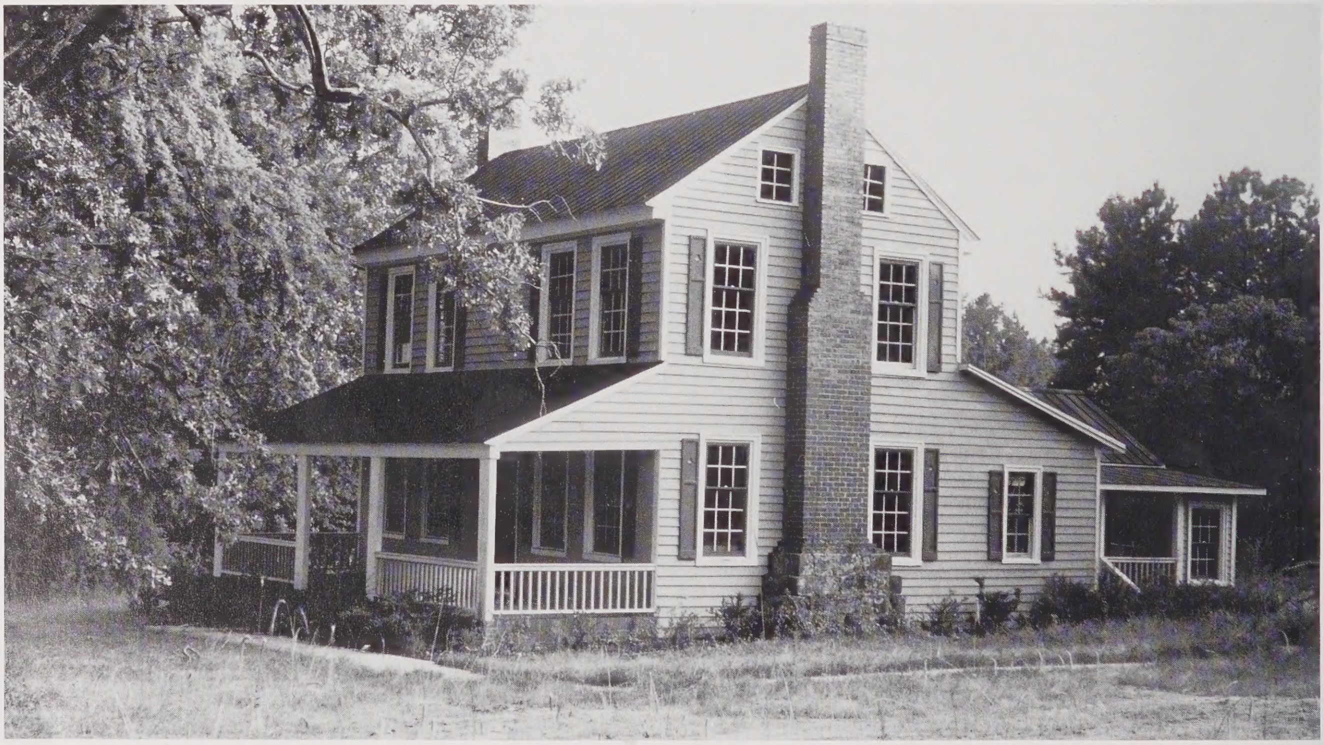
Among the notable exterior features of the house are rebuilt gable-end brick chimneys on stepped brownstone bases, a later one-story ell, and a one-story front porch supported by stout planklike posts. The flush-board house wall sheathing under the porch shows evidence of a secondary front entry that was later made into a window. The Greek Revival styling of the house is more apparent on the interior, which has pilastered mantels, molded chair rails, beveled crown moldings, and flush-board wall and ceiling sheathing. An enclosed winder stair rises on one wall of the center passage.

The second story, which lacks fireplaces and is more plainly detailed than the first story, retains outstanding decorative painting. The bedroom doors have exuberant combed and sponged graining in a variety of patterns and colors. The ceiling of the upstairs passage features smoked decoration formed by passing a sooty lamp under the freshly painted ceiling. Also in the passage is a hatchway door decorated with a wavy blue-on-white pattern, reminiscent of marbling. An enclosed stair in one bedroom leads to the attic, where lapped-and-pegged rafters with neatly chiseled Roman numeral builder's marks are visible. On the door to the attic stair are penciled 1850s dates and the signatures of the Gilmore children.

Sources: Moore County Court of Pleas and Quarter Session minutes; James Vann Comer, Lee County historian; *Sanford Herald*, July 16, 1934; Moore County Deed Book 24, p. 679; Moore County tax records for 1852 and 1858.



Decorative painting on a hatchway to the attic of the ell



John J. and Phebe C. Gilmore House

SAMUEL E. JOHNSON, SR. HOUSE

Johnson Cemetery Road (SR 1167)
Murchisontown vicinity
Ca. 1850

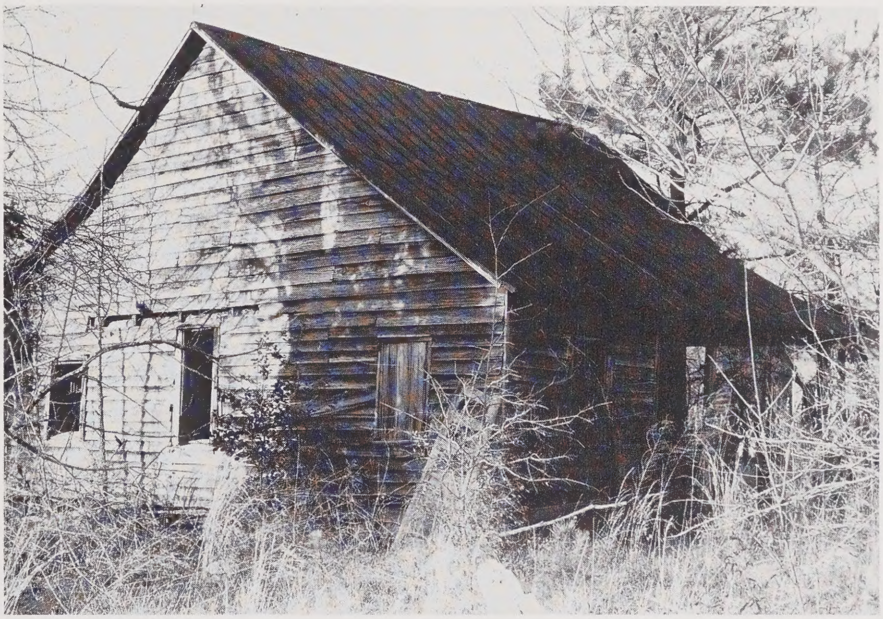
Vernacular log dwellings such as the Johnson House were once common in the Sandhills section of southern Lee County, but abandonment, wildfires, and the elements have thinned their ranks. This deteriorated one-story-with-garret house was probably built for Samuel E. Johnson, Sr. (1815–99), who is buried in the nearby Johnson Cemetery. Family tradition states that the house featured the first glass windows in the area. The next owner of the house, Dr. Samuel E. Johnson, Jr. (1848–1921), served the local community as a male midwife, and in the 1880s and 1890s he was elected to several terms as a magistrate for the Greenwood district of Moore County. The Johnson family operated a mill on a nearby branch of Juniper Creek.

The Johnson House was probably built in the mid-nineteenth century, although it may date from as early as the 1830s. The house has a coastal cottage form with an engaged front porch and rear shed rooms. An exterior sheathing of weatherboards conceals the saddle-notched round-log construction of the house. The overhanging gable on the east elevation now shelters a brick chimney, but it may originally have protected a wooden chimney. The front porch has hewn structural members, chamfered posts, and a mortise-and-tenoned frame porch room with an unglazed shuttered window. The house also has four-over-four-sash windows and lightwood foundation blocks. Like the exterior, the interior of the house is plainly detailed. It featured a hall-parlor plan—until the vertical-board partition between the two rooms was removed—with board wall and ceiling sheathing and a simple Victorian mantel. A stair rises from the larger rear shed room to the garret, which has lapped-and-pegged log-pole rafters.

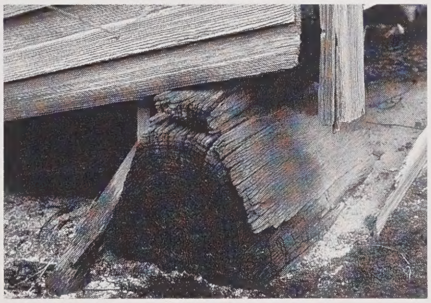
To the rear, separated by a breezeway, is an early mortise-and-tenoned frame wing with a side porch, a brick gable-end chimney, and tall nine-over-nine-sash windows. According to family tradition, this wing served as Dr. Johnson's office; it may also have functioned as a kitchen or dining room. This wing has a simple architrave mantel. Behind the house stands a board-and-batten frame shed, and a large frame barn formerly stood close by.

Owner: Steve Thomas.

Sources: Franklin Johnson; Effie Fields, longtime area resident; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*, cover; business directories.



Samuel E. Johnson, Sr. House



Wood foundation block

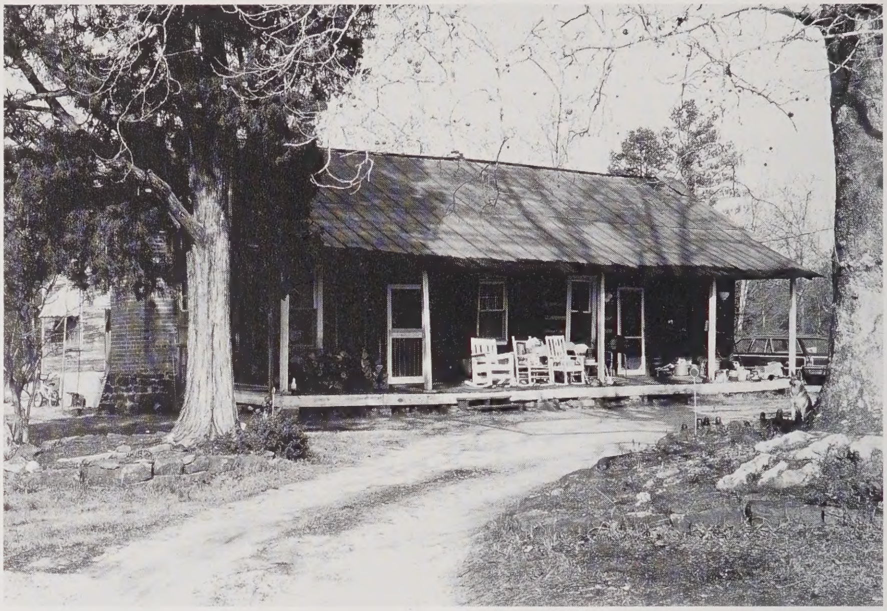
LEMON HOUSE

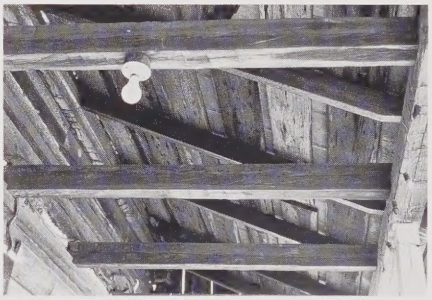
7432 White Hill Road (US 15–501)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1850

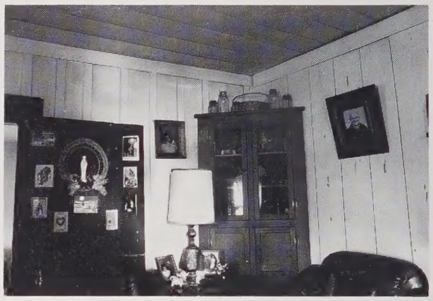
The Lemon House, one of Lee County's best-preserved antebellum log dwellings, was probably built by Duncan M. Lemon (or Lemons, 1818–89) in the mid-1800s. The original east-end log section of the house has half-dovetail corner notching and a projecting east gable—possible evidence of a wooden chimney that preceded the present brick and brownstone chimney. The later west-end frame section has hewn and mortise-and-tenoned structural members, board-and-batten siding, a brick and brownstone chimney, and a hall-parlor plan. Extending across the front of the house is a porch that incorporates hewn plates, rafters, and joists. Shed rooms were framed up across the back in the 1940s or 1950s.

The simple interior features board sheathing, beaded and molded crown boards, and a bracketed Victorian mantel in the log section. When the present owners moved into the house in the late 1970s, newspaper wallpapering covered the exposed walls of the log section. Just to the east of the house is Lemon Springs, a late-nineteenth-century resort developed by John W. Scott on land purchased from the Lemon family.

Owner: Russell J. Denkins.
Sources: Russell J. Denkins; Cleta Jones, longtime area resident; Marvin Gaster, Lee County historian; Moore County deeds; Moore County tax records, 1852 and 1858; *Central Express*, May 4, 1889.


Lemon House


Porch roof structure


Interior of frame section

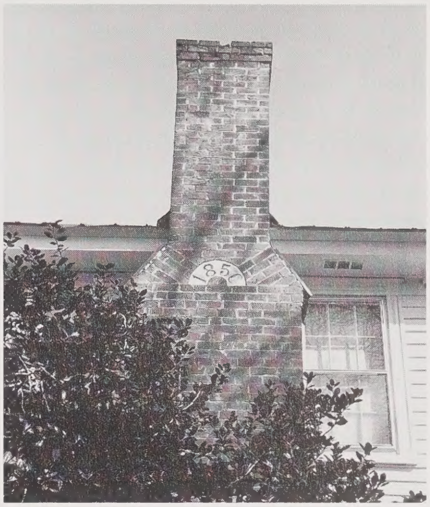
OBEDIAH AND SARAH FARRAR HOUSE

9910 Barringer Road (off SR 1500)
Blacknel vicinity
Ca. 1850

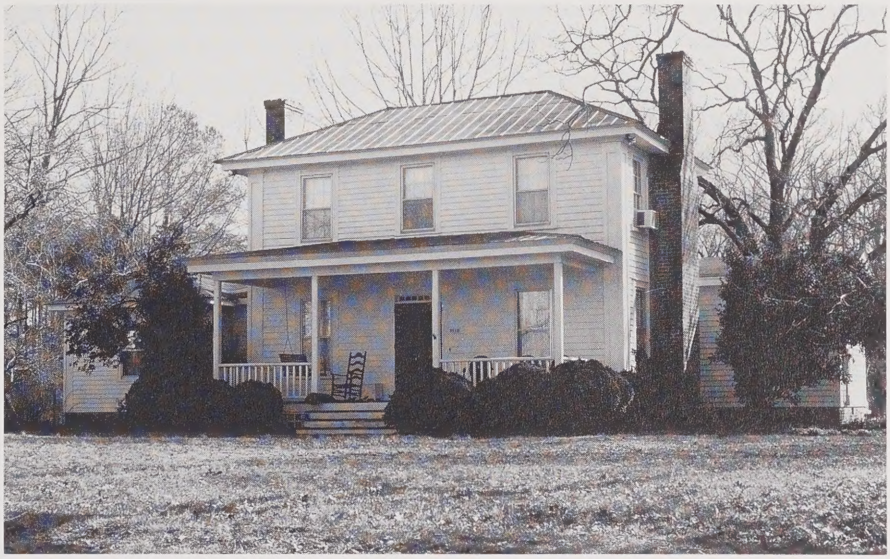
In 1849, Obediah Farrar (ca. 1810–65) purchased three hundred acres of Deep River bottomland opposite the town of Haywood in present Chatham County. This land had long been of interest to speculators, owing to its riverside location and its proximity to Haywood, which on two occasions was considered as a site for the state capital. Farrar and his wife, Sarah (Sally) Avent Farrar, had the present two-story frame house built in the 1850s; it stood on the south side of the Haywood Road, which bridged the Deep River a short distance to the east. Farrar's second wife, Ann Eliza Clegg Farrar, inherited the property and later married Haywood merchant Benjamin F. Powell. After Ann Farrar Powell's death in 1886, the house was occupied by tenants. Lee County industrialist and agribusinessman Paul Jehu Barringer, Sr., acquired the property in 1943. The house was restored by the late Paul J. Barringer, Jr., and Jane Swindell Barringer in 1960.

The Farrar House has gable-end brick chimneys with tumbled shoulders, a chimney treatment peculiar to several northeastern Lee County farmhouses of the period. The west chimney's shoulder has a semicircular date panel bearing the date "1850" or "1856." Other exterior features include Greek Revival corner pilasters and door and window surrounds and a front porch designed and built by Old Salem restorationist Jack Griffin in 1960 to replace a similar earlier porch. The Greek Revival character carries through to the interior door and window surrounds and mantels. An enclosed winder stair rises from the rear of the center passage. The extensive one-story rear additions to the house, dating to after 1960, incorporate an original rear shed room. Near the house are a brick-tile tobacco barn, modern outbuildings, and the trace of the old Haywood Road.

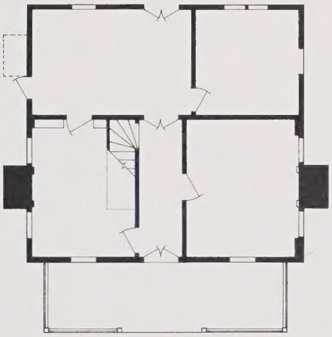
Owner: Jane S. Barringer.
Sources: Jane S. Barringer; Pezzoni, "Obediah Farrar House"; *Sanford Herald*, December 28, 1960; Chatham County deeds; business directories.



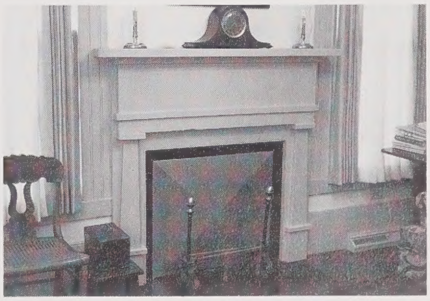
West chimney



Obediah and Sarah Farrar House



First-story plan (Measured by Ted Lawrence and the author; drawn by the author)



Mantel in first-story east room

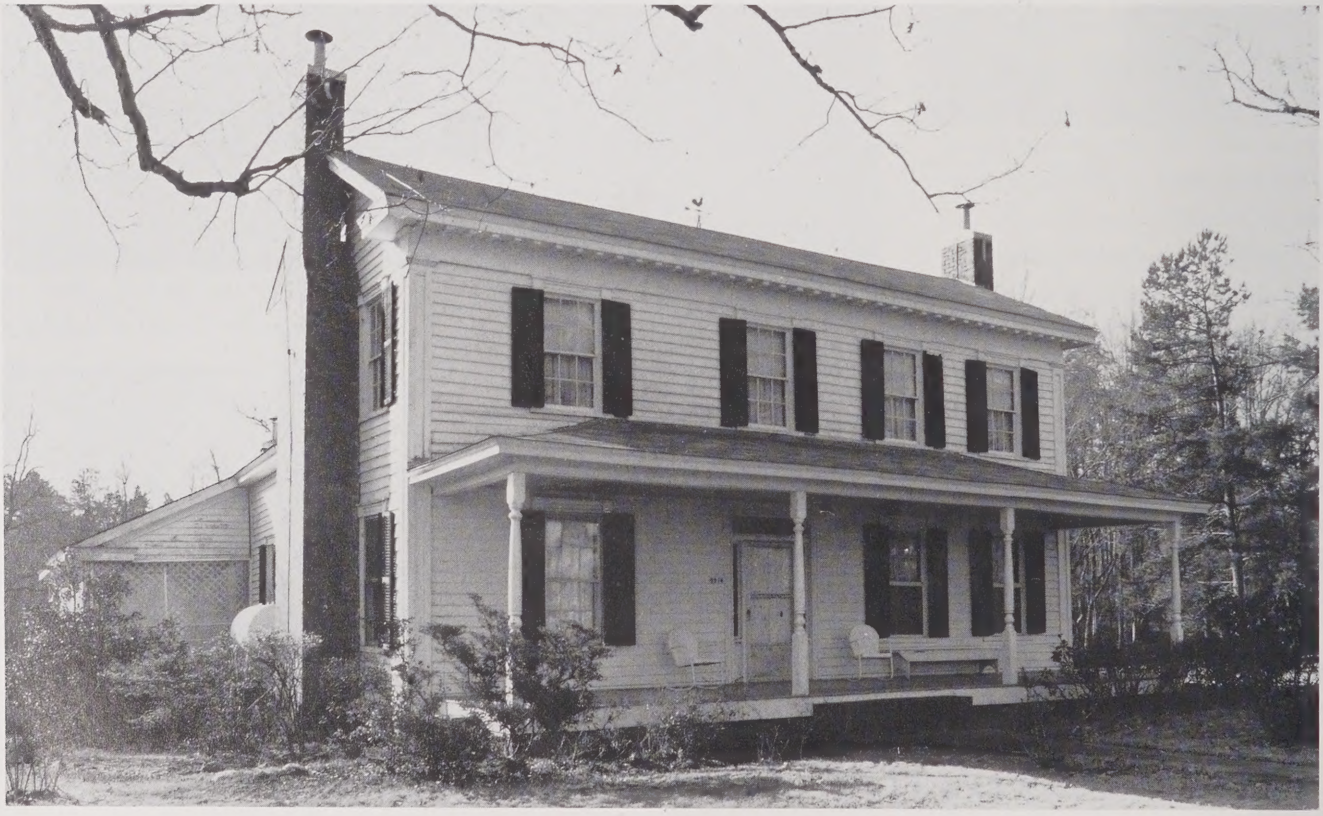
9016 Deep River Road (SR 1466)
Blacknel vicinity
1852

John W. Farrish was the original owner of this two-story frame house and over six hundred acres on the high ground above the Deep River. Farrish owned a store in Lockville (in present Chatham County) during the antebellum period, and it is likely that he was involved in copper and coal mining, either on his own property or at the Clegg Copper Mine. After Farrish went bankrupt following the Civil War, Alfred Thomas Lambeth (1834–1903) acquired the property, where he lived with his wife Dolly, their children, and black house servants and farmhands. Lambeth too was involved in copper mining, and he served as a Chatham County commissioner from 1888 to 1894.

The Farrish-Lambeth House has a number of unusual and stylish features. The modillion cornice, paneled corner pilasters, and fluted door and window surrounds are particularly fine local expressions of the Greek Revival style. Rising at both gable ends are brick chimneys with tumbled shoulders; in the west chimney shoulders is a semicircular date panel with a (retouched) painted date of 1852. The present one-story front porch replaces the similar original porch, which had square wood columns. Extending to the rear is a collection of separate rooms, including a dining room and a kitchen, connected by formerly open breezeways; these were added by the Lambeth family around 1900. The center-passage-plan interior features Greek Revival mantels with symmetrically molded pilasters on the first story, and plainer mantels upstairs. A store and numerous outbuildings formerly clustered around the house.

Owner: Dorothy Lambeth Garnett.
Sources: Dorothy L. Garnett; Garnett, *Alfred Thomas Lambeth's Family*; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; Hadley et al., *Chatham County*; Chatham County Deed Books AK, p. 155, AN, p. 229, and AR, p. 166; 1870 Ramsey map of Chatham County; *Sanford Herald*, May 9 and August 22, 1924; U.S. census schedules.

Mantel (Photo by Michael Southern, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



Farrish-Lambeth House (Photo by Michael Southern, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

WILLIAM W. AND JANE S. DYE HOUSE

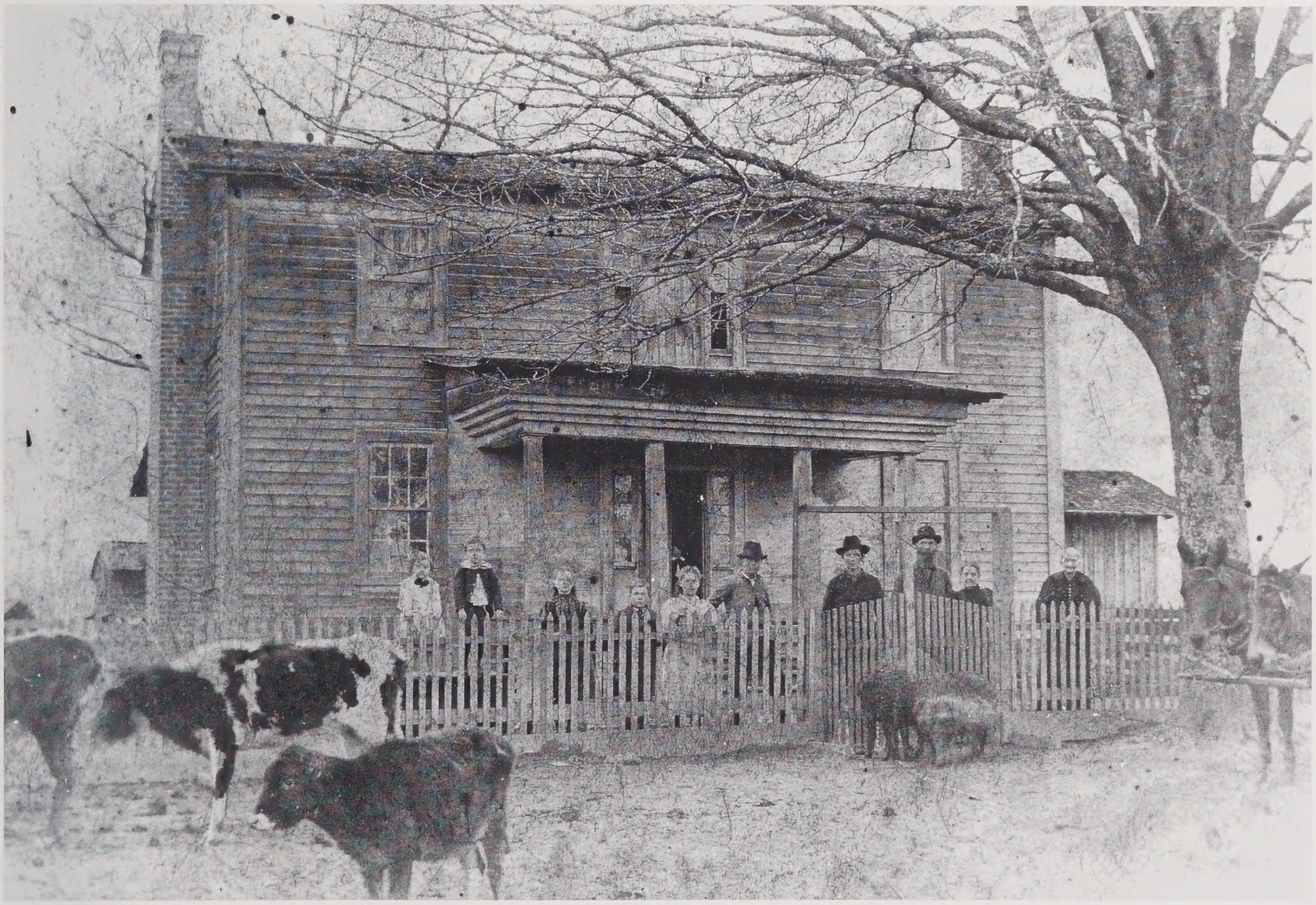
2515 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
1853

William Wesley "Wes" Dye (1817–73) and Jane Sloan Dye (b. ca. 1823) were probably the original owners of this two-story frame house. The date "1853" was once scribbled under a front window sill, a date that agrees with the Greek Revival style of the house and period tax records. Wes Dye may have operated a store in Sanford during the early years of the town's development. The Dyes' son, David Turner Dye (b. ca. 1844), evidently owned the house after his parents.

The Dye House features such typical Lee County Greek Revival elements as paneled corner pilasters and eaves with decorative exposed rafter tails. A one-story porch extends across the front, and a one-story ell projects to the rear. The original front porch, which appears in an old photograph, featured tapered square wood posts and an unusual stepped cornice. The center-passage-plan interior has Greek Revival mantels with molded pilasters, door surrounds with large unembellished square corner blocks, and a decorative balustrade in the second-story stair hall that dates to a 1960s remodeling of the house by the Cooke family.

Owner: Mrs. A. M. Cooke.
Sources: Katie Ammons; Patterson, "Dye-Cook House"; Moore County tax records for 1852 and 1858; U.S. census schedules.

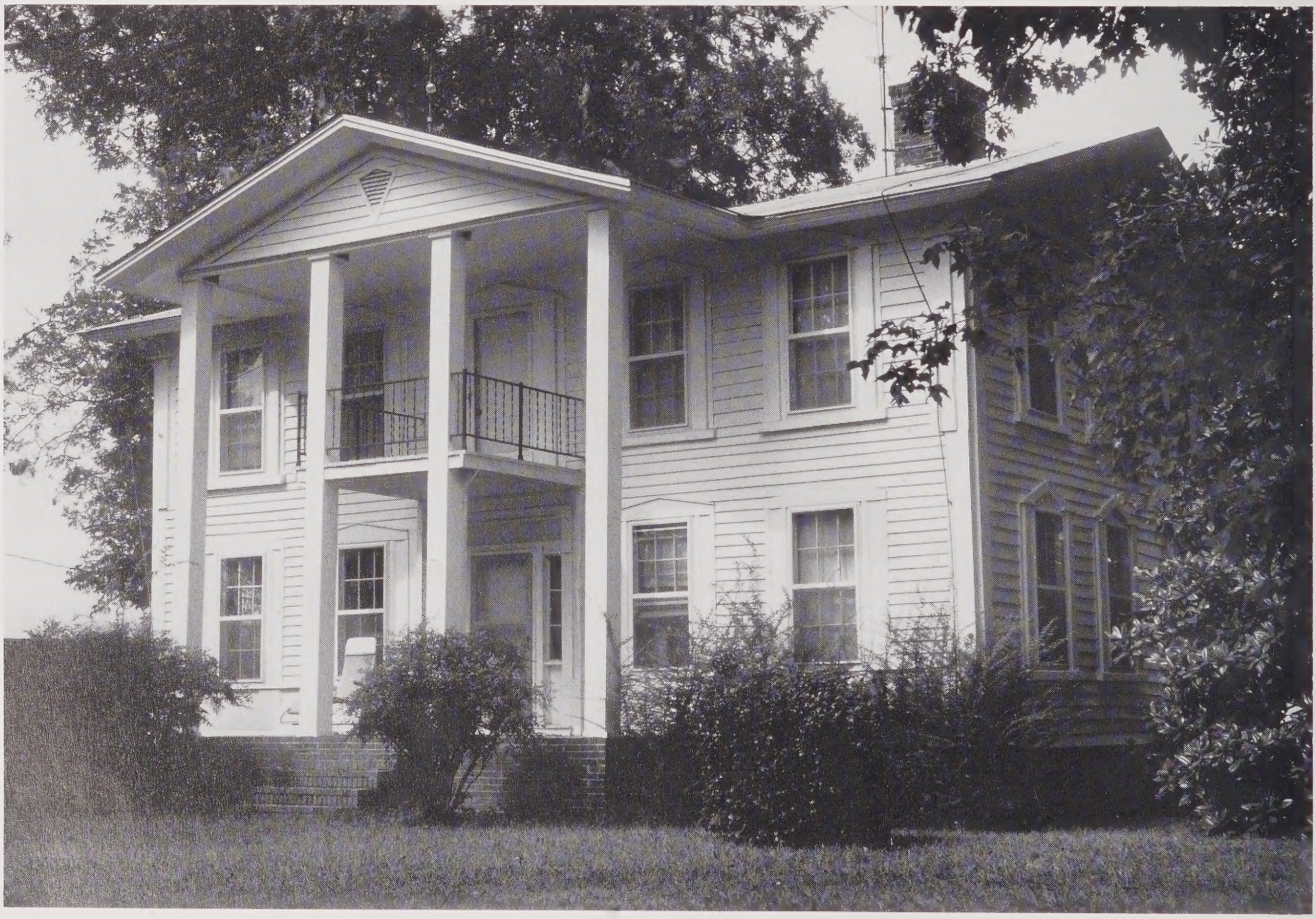
House in 1994


William W. and Jane S. Dye House (Photo ca. 1900, courtesy of Katie Ammons)

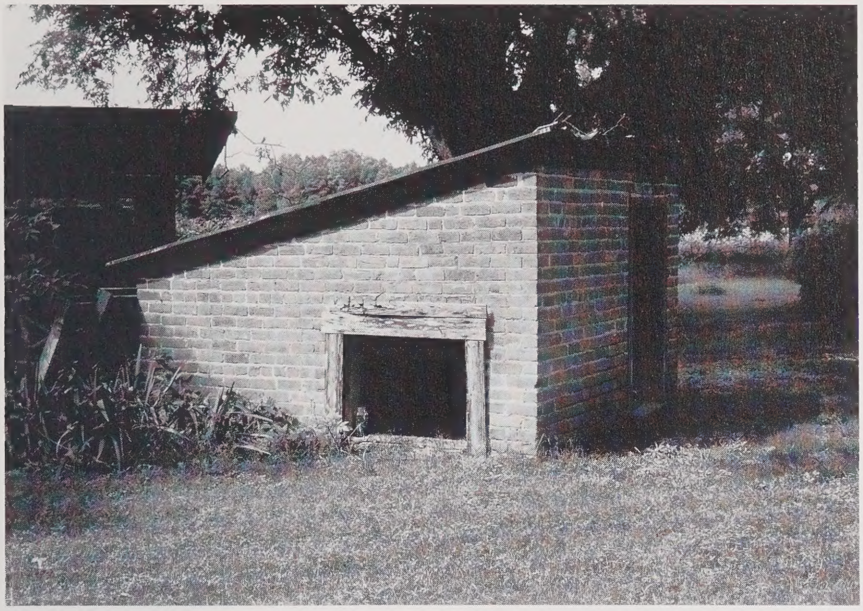
5715 Carbonton Road (NC 42)
Carbonton vicinity
1853–54

The Carbonton area has a rich heritage of community-supported academies. This impressive two-story frame house is associated with one of them: the Carbonton Academy, established in 1852 by University of North Carolina graduate Cyrus Harrington (b. ca. 1827) and his wife, Lucy Roberts Harrington. In December 1853, Cyrus Harrington placed an advertisement in the *Fayetteville Observer* for "Harrington's Male & Female School," announcing that he was "desirous of obtaining some 12 or 15 young ladies as boarders, for whom he is preparing and soon will have completed ample accommodations." By June 1854, when Harrington advertised that "the subscriber has ample accommodations and desires to take all the Female Boarders into his own family," he had completed construction of the girls dormitory and Harrington residence. In 1877, after the demise of the Carbonton Academy, George Cole purchased the property. Cole eventually amassed two thousand acres, and in 1886 he was deeded a quarter interest in a flour- and sawmill at Carbonton. Cole remained in the mill business until 1915.

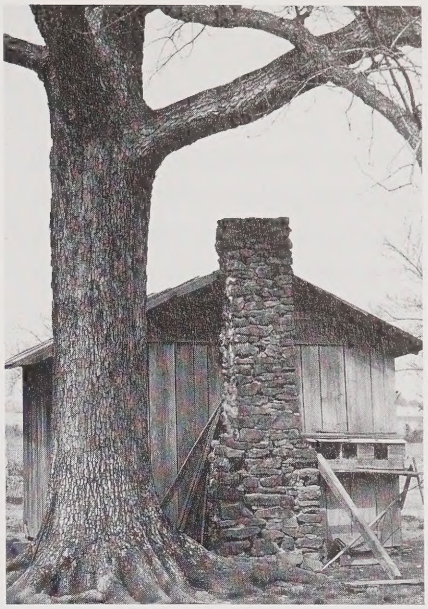
Architecturally, the dormitory's unusual Greek Revival detailing makes it one of Lee County's most interesting dwellings. The five-bay front elevation has large six-over-six-sash windows set in stylized, almost caricatured pedimented surrounds. Under the level of the first-story window sills extends a paneled "wainscot"—evidence of a former full-facade porch. The present porch incorporates elements from a late-nineteenth-century porch and features modern two-story square wood columns. The front entry with its boldly molded Greek Revival surround opens into a center passage flanked by pairs of rooms. On the east wall of the passage, stairs rise from both the front and rear entries and meet at the second-story level in a complicated star-shaped arrangement of winder steps. Low handrails, scaled as though for children, rise with the stairs and continue around the upstairs stairwell. The unusual Greek Revival detailing of the exterior is magnified on the interior. Doorways



Carbonton Academy Girls Dormitory



Cellar

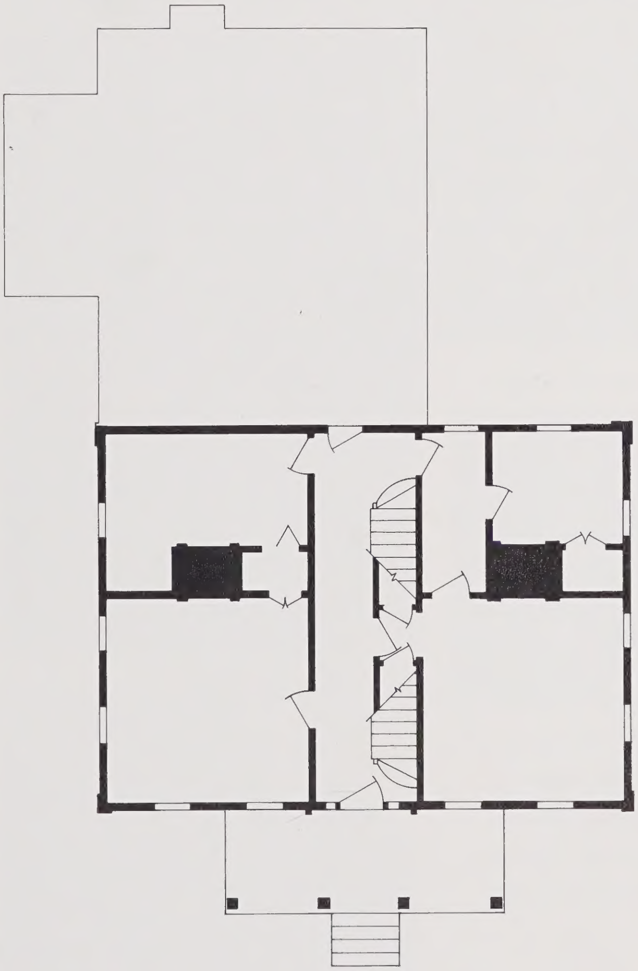


Washhouse (Photo ca. 1950, courtesy of Thomas W. Poe, Jr.)

have overscaled surrounds, and mantels feature boldly paneled friezes and pilasters with exaggerated tapering.

The present complement of domestic and farm outbuildings was probably built during the Coles' ownership. To the east side of the house is a shed-roofed, semisubterranean brick "cellar" where milk and canned goods were stored. Off the north end of the original house ell is a board-and-batten frame washhouse with a stone firebox and brick flue. Also on the property are a two-level frame barn and a slatted corncrib.

Owner: Thomas W. Poe, Jr.
Sources: Thomas W. Poe, Jr.; James Vann Comer and Edwin Patterson, Lee County historians; Willcox, notes on Carbonton; *Fayetteville Observer*, December 19, 1853, June 26, 1854, and December 17, 1859; "Harrington"; Chatham County Deed Books BR, p. 521, and FP, p. 588; U.S. census schedules.



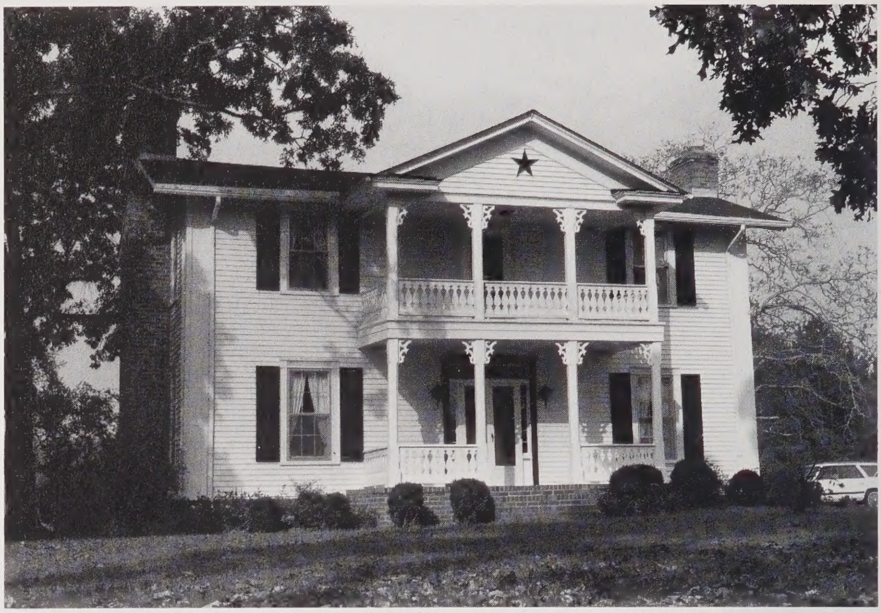
First-story plan (Measured by Nathan E. Paschal and the author; drawn by the author)

4205 Carbonton Road (NC 42)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1855

Alexander Monroe Wicker (1831–98) and Caroline McIver Wicker (1826–98) probably had this two-story frame house built about the time of their marriage in 1854. Typical of late-antebellum construction in the area, the house has such Greek Revival features as wide corner pilasters, fluted window surrounds, and a front entry with double-leaf doors and decorative sidelights and transom. The property may have been owned by the Chears family in later years.

Dominating the facade is a two-tier porch with chamfered posts, frilly sawn brackets, and a star-shaped gable vent, evidently a late-nineteenth-century reworking or replacement of an original porch. The brick gable-end chimneys are modern replacements, and the one-story ell stands in place of an earlier kitchen and breezeway. Inside, the center passage has a two-run stair with square newels and balusters and a beaded stringer. The two downstairs rooms have conventional Greek Revival pilaster-and-frieze mantels; in the upstairs rooms are architrave mantels with single blank frieze panels. Except for a board-and-batten pack house, all other buildings on the property are modern.

Owner: Beryl B. Willett.
Sources: Beryl B. Willett; Oroon D. Palmer, Jr., Lee County historian; Kelly, *McIver Family*; Moore County Deed Book 6, pp. 189, 191, and 193, and Deed Book 8, p. 261.



Alexander M. and Caroline M. Wicker House

Stair and door surround in center passage

JOHN D. McIVER FARM

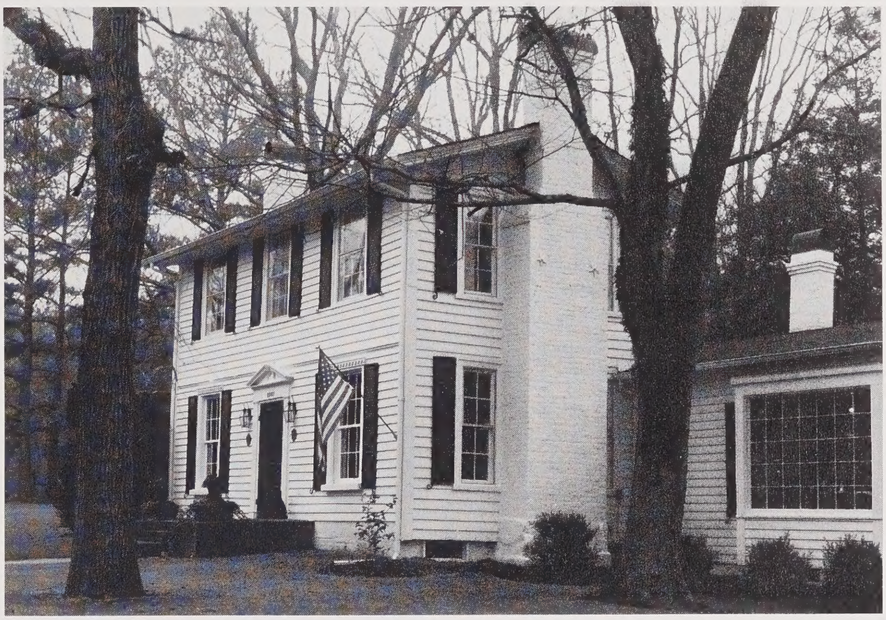
2007 Windmill Drive
Sanford
Ca. 1855

Tucked away in Sanford's Westlake Valley neighborhood is a true rarity—a relatively intact Lee County farm dating from the antebellum period. The farm, established by John Dalrymple McIver (1826–1911) in the 1850s, grew to encompass some six hundred or more acres of woodlot, pasture, cotton fields, cornfields, apple and peach orchards, and a vineyard. In the 1870s, when the town of Sanford developed on part of the farm, McIver became a principal partner of McIvers, the new town's leading store. McIver operated a cotton gin and a sawmill on his farm and was an elder of Buffalo Presbyterian Church. From 1914 to 1945, the farm was owned by Archibald G. and Ida Fairley Carter. A. G. Carter owned the Carter Furniture Company in Sanford.

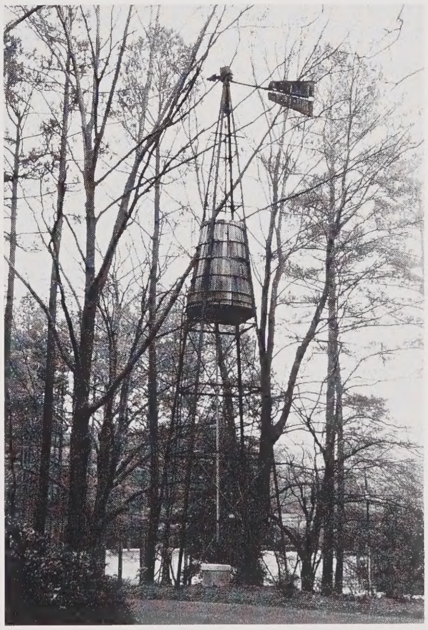
The two-story frame McIver farmhouse, built about 1855, has characteristic local Greek Revival detailing, such as boldly defined interior door and window surrounds and mantels with distinctive triangular pilasters. A one-story porch with tapered columns once extended across the front, which now features a modern Colonial Revival entrance. Behind the farmhouse is a brownstone meat house, the largest and likely the oldest meat house in the county. Nearby stands a remarkable antebellum corncrib constructed of diamond-notched straight-sawn timbers. The crib is raised high off the ground on brownstone piers, and its front hatches are hung on hand-wrought strap hinges. A large carriage house, a brownstone well, two stout wooden gateposts with spiked tops, and remnants of locally made iron fencing survive on the property. On a knoll across Wilkins Drive, at the site of the former cotton gin, stand a second brownstone well (under an early gabled shelter) and the 1930s Fairbanks-Morse New Eclipse windmill from which Windmill Drive takes its name. A wooden cotton press stood near the windmill into the 1950s.

Owners: Meigs C. and Peggy C. Golden.

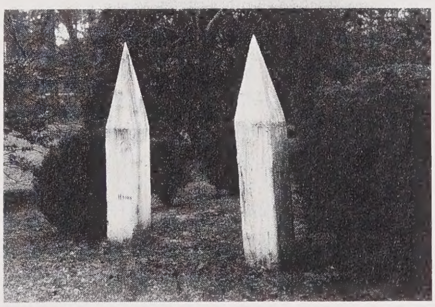
Sources: Meigs C. and Peggy C. Golden; Richard Chapman; Pezzoni, "John D. McIver Farm"; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; Kelly, *McIver Family*; *Sanford Herald*, July 30, 1955; Lee and Moore County records; business directories.



John D. McIver Farm farmhouse



Windmill



Gateposts

WESLEY AND JANE C. McIVER HOUSE

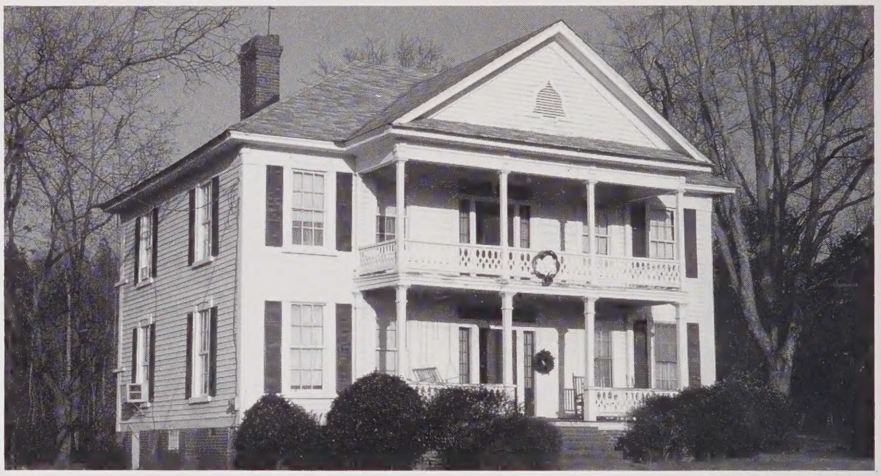
2614 Buffalo Church Road (SR 1153)
Sanford
Ca. 1855

Wesley McIver (1820–75) purchased several tracts of land in the Buffalo Church vicinity during the 1840s and 1850s, and he and his wife Jane C. (1825–83; daughter of Evander and Margaret McIver) probably had this large two-story frame house built in the 1850s. The town of Sanford was established partly on land owned by Wesley and his brother, John D. McIver. Wesley and Jane's son, Duncan Evander McIver (1861–1913), managed the farm from about 1880 until 1893, when with his new bride, Kate Scott, he moved into a house at 315 Hawkins Avenue in Sanford. The Arthur A. Bowers family moved to the farm from Mecklenburg County in the early 1900s.

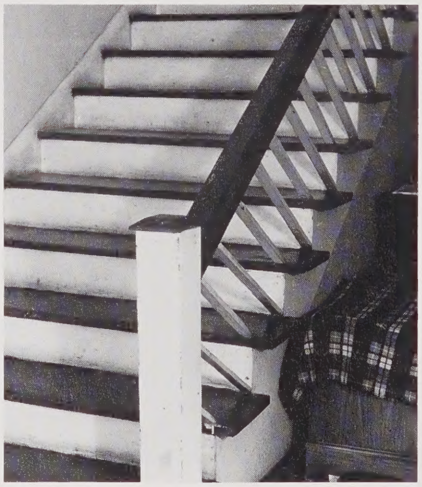
A striking feature of the house is its elaborate two-tier front porch, with sawn balustrades, ogee gable vent, and chamfered posts—an enrichment probably added by Duncan E. McIver in the 1880s. The principal original features of the exterior are the boldly defined Greek Revival door and window surrounds with their plain trim and turned corner blocks. After a tornado tore off the original roof—which was probably hipped—in 1915, the present hip roof was built by John B. Matthews, Jr., and O. P. Makepeace. On the interior, the center passage features a stair with balusters angled forward at a 45-degree pitch, creating a disconcerting visual effect. Two-panel doors lead into the pairs of rooms on each side of the passage. The dining room, adjacent to a one-story rear kitchen wing, features a built-in china cabinet or pantry with punched-tin doors. Most rooms contain relatively plain Greek Revival mantels.

Behind the main house stands a one-story, weatherboarded, mortise-and-tenoned frame building identified as a slave quarter. A massive brownstone chimney rises on the inside, dividing the interior into two rooms. Other features include Roman numeral builder's marks on the hewn and straight-sawn structural members; an unglazed shuttered window on the east gable end; and large cooking fireplaces. Located between the quarter and the main house is a well with a brownstone curb and a gabled shelter. An impressive nineteenth-century cotton gin with board-and-batten siding and hand-wrought door hinges formerly stood across Buffalo Church Road from the house. This gin was operated by Jane McIver during the 1870s and 1880s and by Duncan E. McIver during the 1890s.

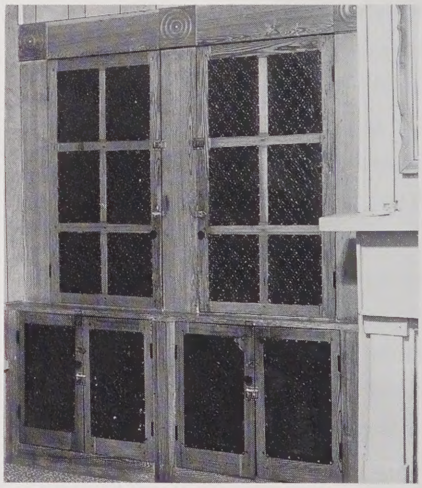
Owner: A. A. Bowers's estate.
Sources: Lynda Bowers; Mrs. A. A. Bowers; Edward T. Lawrence and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; Kelley, *McIver Family*; Hughes and Gaster, "Lee County"; 1981 Historic Lee County calendar; *Sanford Herald*, June 11, 1953; Moore County deeds; Moore County tax records for 1858; business directories; U.S. census schedules.



Wesley and Jane C. McIver House



Stair



China cabinet

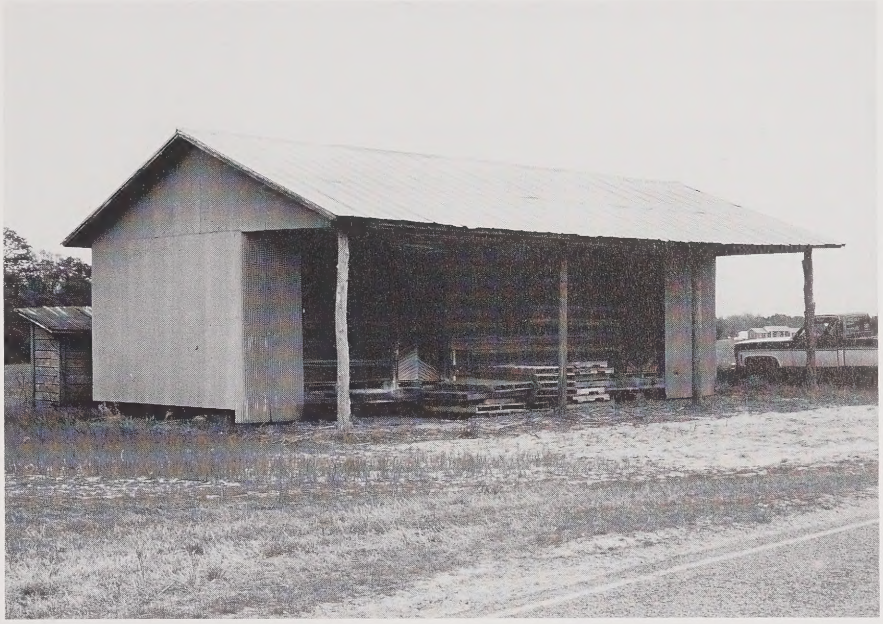
ABSALOM KELLY STORE AND LONGSTREET POST OFFICE

Berke Thomas Road (SR 1535)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1855

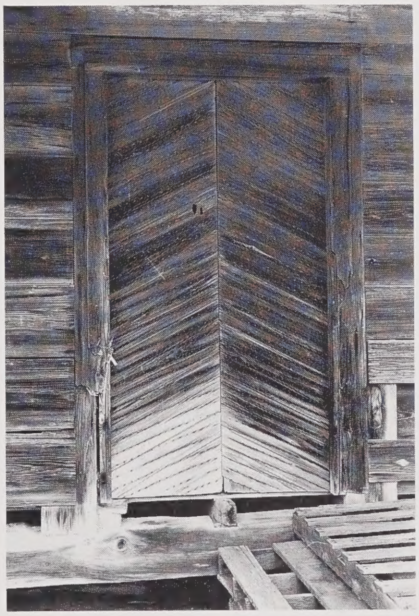
The Absalom Kelly Store is one of Lee County's oldest commercial buildings—if not the oldest. Absalom Kelly (1815–81)—a Moore County commissioner, an original deacon of Salem Presbyterian Church, and a Jonesboro district magistrate in the 1860s and 1870s—probably had the one-story frame building built during the 1850s. He may have purchased the property on which the store stands in 1854, and tax records suggest that he built the store by 1858. Kelly is said to have operated a bar in his store, serving brandy made from apples and peaches grown in his orchards. According to local tradition, Federal soldiers camped near the store during the closing weeks of the Civil War or during the early years of Reconstruction. In 1867, the store was designated the Longstreet Post Office, a status it held for two years. Kelly's store also operated as a buying station for turpentine gathered in the area.

Unlike most country store buildings of its time, the Kelly Store is entered on its side elevation rather than through a door on its gable end. The two entries have double-leaf doors formed from boards nailed together in a chevron pattern, and the engaged front porch formerly stood on stout octagonal posts. The two-room interior has flush-board sheathing. The Kelly House once stood across Berke Thomas Road; today the graves of Absalom and his wife Nancy mark the spot.

Sources: Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; Thomas, "Old Name 'Longstreet' Now County Road Name"; Robert Thomas, Broadway-area historian; *Sanford Herald*, May 15, 1953, and July 8, 1971; "A Brief Historical Sketch of the Salem Presbyterian Church"; Moore County Deed Book 7, p. 261; Moore County tax records for 1852 and 1858; business directories; U.S. census schedules.



Absalom Kelly Store and Longstreet Post Office



Front door

Carbonton Road (NC 42)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1855

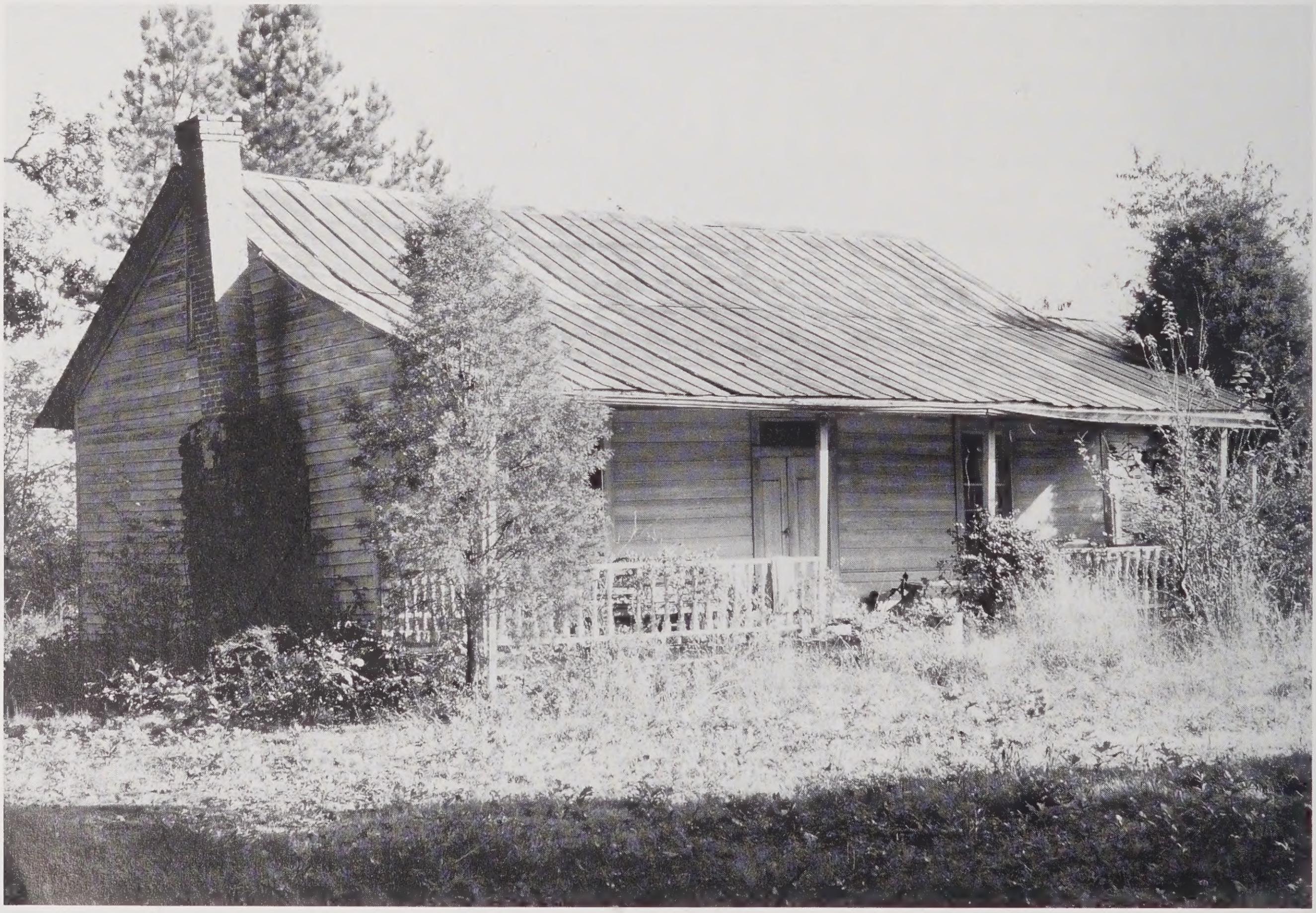
According to tradition, Stephen Henley moved to the Carbonton area in 1851 and established a mill on Big Pocket Creek—at the site of the present reconstructed Gilliam Mill. In 1858, Henley owned 768-acres and at least two slaves. He is believed to have begun construction on his one-story frame house prior to the Civil War. In 1878, the family of William Pickard moved into the Henley dwelling. Pickard had operated a cotton mill at Snow Camp during the Civil War.

The Henley-Pickard House has a two-room-deep center-passage plan—a plan not often encountered in the county's nineteenth-century one-story houses. The exterior detail is Greek Revival in inspiration: the plain door and window surrounds have simple corner blocks, and the front entry has two leaves that form a two-panel arrangement when closed; the back door has a more typical two-panel configuration. The house once had (or was intended to have) four exterior chimneys—one for each room inside—but only two brownstone rubble chimneys with brick stacks remain. Other exterior features include an engaged front porch and a twentieth-century dining room wing with a kitchen ell.

The interior of the house has changed little over the years. The walls are sheathed with wide boards, mostly unpainted, and have low wainscots with simple chair rails. Several mantels have peculiar tapered pilasters and heavy mantel shelves in a vernacular rendition of the Greek Revival style. One later mantel has molded pilasters and an arched frieze profile. The roof construction is unusual: the rafters are butted at the ridge rather than notched, and they are fastened with wood pegs, and wood pegs also connect the rafters to the joists of the attic floor—again, without notched joints. This roof structure is repeated in the detached board-and-batten kitchen.

Owner: Worth F. Pickard.

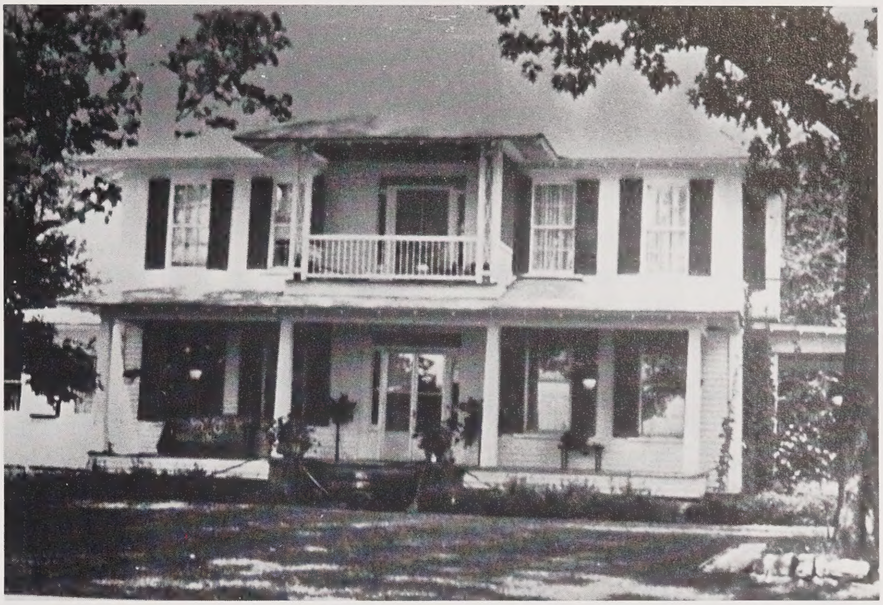
Sources: Worth F. Pickard, Lee County historian; Pickard, "Henley Pickard House"; Moore County tax records for 1858.



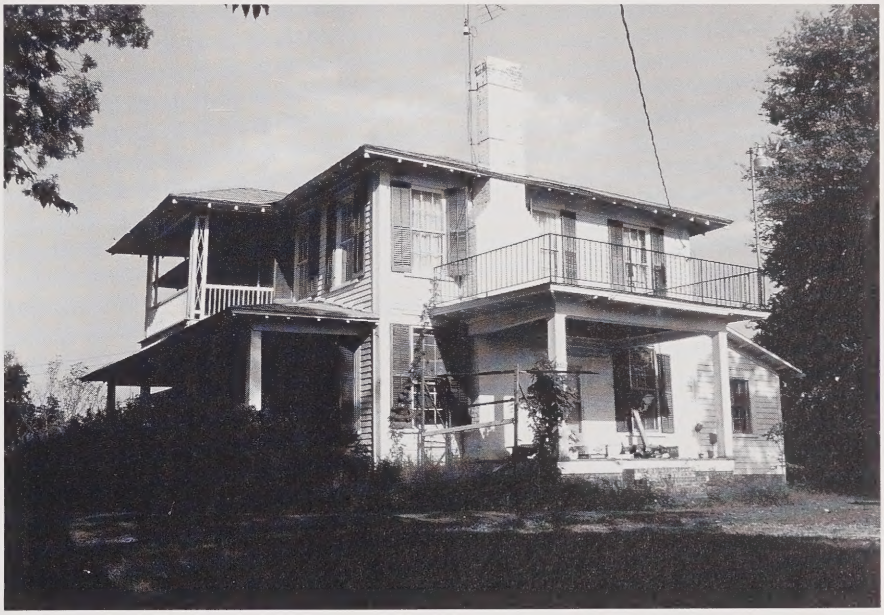
Henley-Pickard House

McIVER-FAULK HOUSE

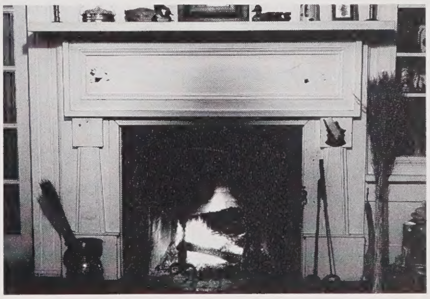
4130 Harvey Faulk Road (SR 1138)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1855



McIver-Faulk House (Photo 1985, courtesy of Melissa Holshouser)



Side view



Mantel in first-story west room

John (1821–98) and Flora Anne (1826–81) McIver had this fine Greek Revival residence built in the mid-1800s, probably about the time of their marriage in 1856. John McIver practiced medicine from an office located in the corner of the front yard, and his slaves lived in dwellings behind the house. Jonesboro merchant J. Alton McIver, who was born here in 1860, lived in the house until 1902. Several families owned the house before 1918, when Emmett B. and Hattie E. Faulk purchased it. The Faulks added a small one-story wing to the west elevation.

The two-story frame house has a hip roof with decorative rafter tails in the eaves, a five-bay front elevation, and remnants of an original two-tier porch held up by latticed supports. Inside, vernacular Greek Revival mantels are similar to ones in other McIver family homes of the period, and the center-passage stair rises from the back of the passage—another Lee County trait. Also typical of the area is the two-room-deep plan, with smaller rooms behind a range of full-sized front rooms. Remnants of a white stone walkway and planting bed borders survive in the yard, and barns and other outbuildings stand nearby. Tradition holds that trains on the Western Railroad, which passed one-quarter mile to the west, made special stops at the plantation when the McIvers requested.

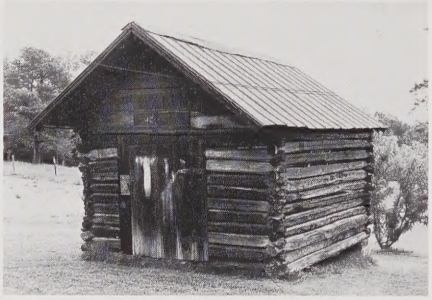
Owners: Harvey C. Faulk's heirs.
Sources: Harvey C. Faulk; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; Kelly, *McIver Family*; *Sanford Herald*, April 13, 1976; business directories; U.S. census schedules.

PATTISHALL-WICKER HOUSE

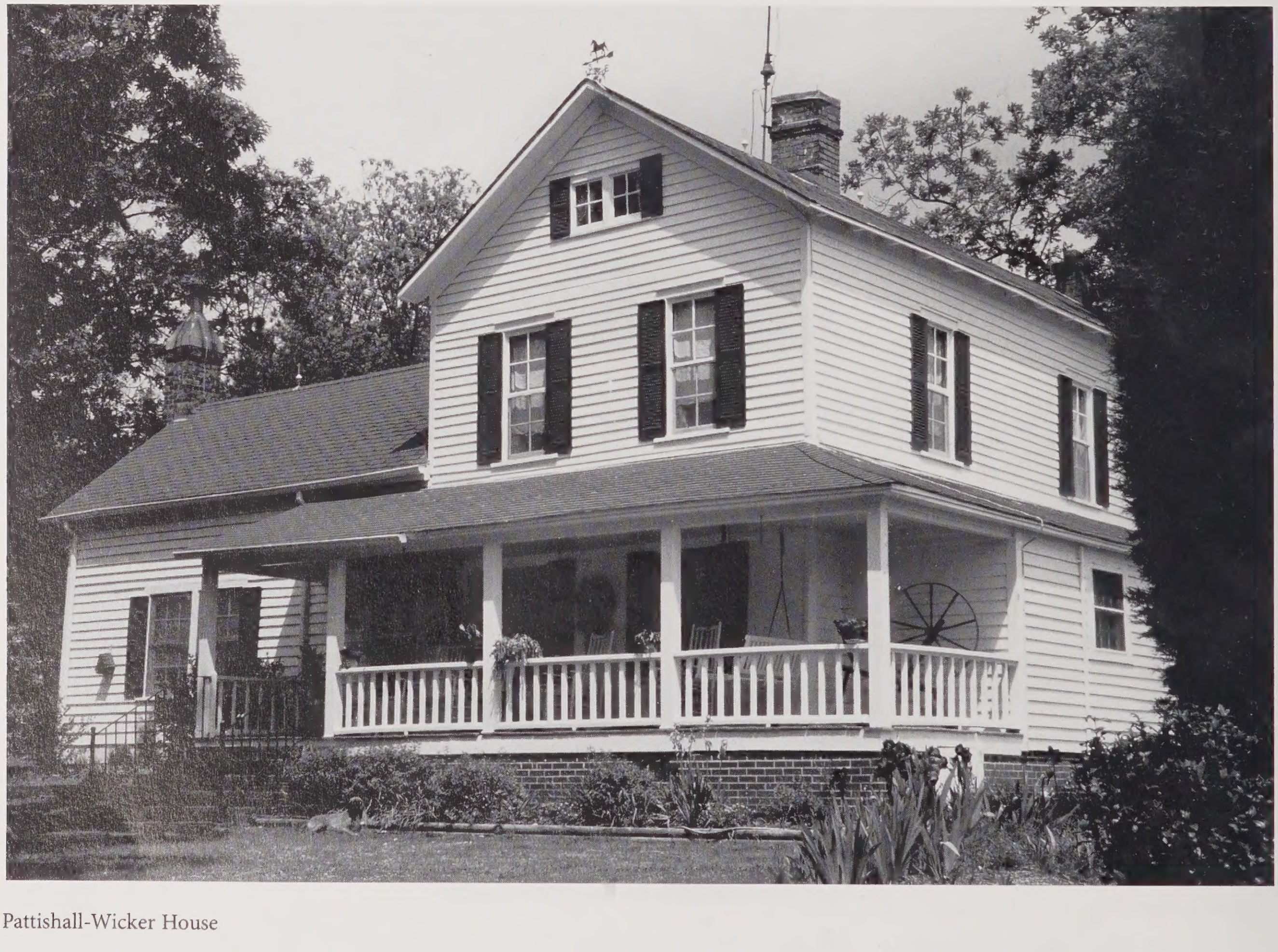
2700 Colon Road (SR 1415)
Colon vicinity
Ca. 1860

The original section of the Pattishall-Wicker House dates to the mid-1800s. Originally owned by John Alston Pattishall, the dwelling was acquired by Wesley Alston Wicker about 1900. The two-story frame house is unusual in that the main entry is on the side of a one-story wing. The house has a partially enclosed one-story porch and brick and stone chimneys. The interior contains a peculiar geometric Greek Revival mantel as well as conventional Victorian mantels. In the yard are early landscape features and a rebuilt saddle-notched log meat house.

Owner: Mrs. Hobart B. Wicker.
Sources: Mrs. Hobert B. Wicker; Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar.



Meat house



Pattishall-Wicker House

WORTHY FARM

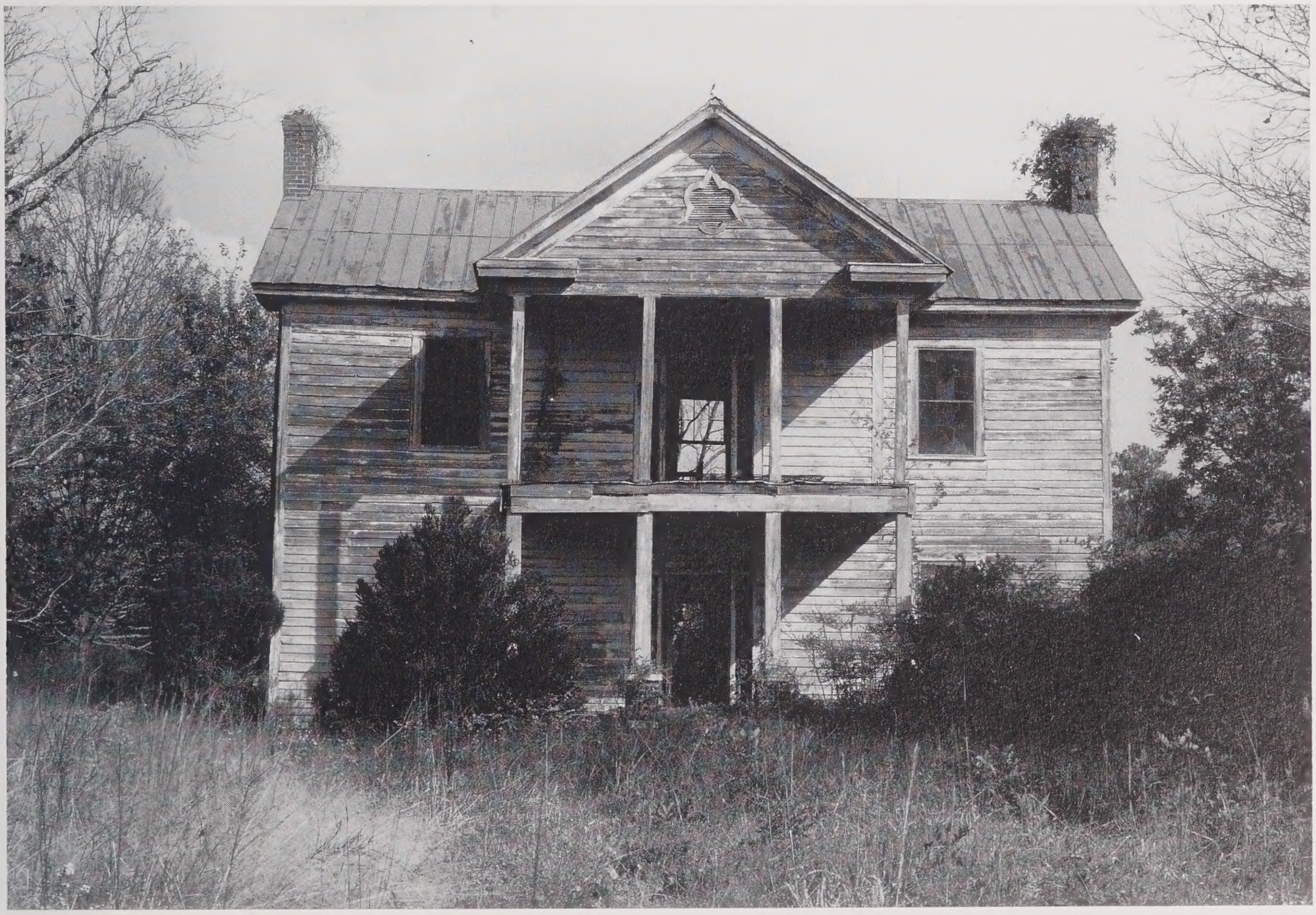
County Line Road (SR 1172)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1860

Kenneth H. Worthy (1820–1901) served as Moore County sheriff from 1850 to 1856 and again from 1860 to 1871, and he represented his county in the state senate in the 1870s. As sheriff, Worthy was responsible for maintaining order in Moore County during the Civil War and Reconstruction. He apparently had this two-story frame house built during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, possibly on a large tract he purchased in 1857. The Worthy House stands on a hill above the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road, and a local tradition holds that the house was built out of lumber from a dismantled 1850s hotel popularly known as McDougald's Folly, which stood a short distance to the southeast on the road. With his wife Margaret and their daughters, Worthy is believed to have occupied the house until he built a larger residence near Jonesboro in the 1870s or 1880s. The property was later associated with Worthy's son Stephen, then with J. D. McLauren, and then with the Smith family.

The Worthy House has a two-tier front porch with a decorative gable vent (probably an 1880s replacement of the original porch), brick gable-end chimneys, and front entries on both the first and second stories, with sidelights and multipaned transoms. The interior is virtually unchanged from its original appearance, with plaster-and-lath walls, flush-board ceilings, and Greek Revival mantels with single-panel friezes and tapered pilasters. A stair with square newel posts and simple balusters rises in the center passage. Behind the house stand several farm buildings including a board-and-batten barn and a frame granary with hewn sills and log joists.

Owner: Lewis Bert Smith.

Sources: Marvin Gaster and James Vann Comer, Lee County historians; Moore County Deed Book 32, p. 406; Durrill, *War of Another Kind*, 82; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; Hughes and Gaster, "Lee County"; business directories; U.S. census schedules.



Worthy House

NEIL A. McNEILL FARM

Jefferson Davis Highway (US 1)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1860

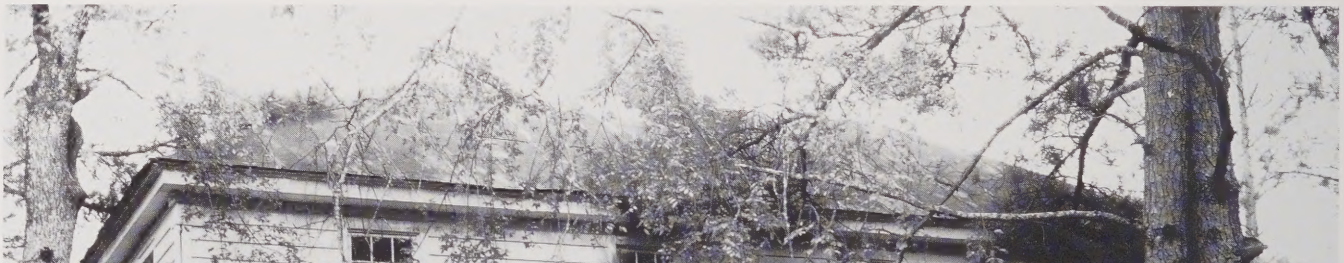
Neil Augustus McNeill (1830–1924) probably had this two-story frame farmhouse built about 1860, soon after the Fayetteville & Western Plank Road was built within sight of the property. McNeill's obituary recalled that "he remembered well the days when the old plank road was built and put in use." McNeill's daughter, Mary Anne "Sis" McNeill, acquired the property after the death of her parents.

The McNeill House has a number of unusual characteristics, including a four-bay front elevation reflecting a two-room-plan interior with a central brick chimney. The exterior and interior detailing is Greek Revival in inspiration, with two-panel doors and characteristic mantels. Across the front extends a reworked one-story porch; a one-story ell extends to the rear. Nearby are a number of significant outbuildings. The small frame dairy is one of the few structures in the county with beaded weatherboard siding, an early treatment. Next to the dairy stands a detached kitchen and/or slave dwelling that may have been an earlier principal dwelling. The building has an unglazed shuttered window with a hand-wrought latch; wrought strap hinges on the doors; and hewn and beaded ceiling joists. Beyond this domestic grouping is a row of farm buildings, including a two-level frame barn and a latticed corncrib. After many years of neglect, the McNeill Farm has now been renovated and reoccupied.

Owner: Ronald L. Freeland.

Sources: James Vann Comer, Lee County historian; Reeb, *Architectural Resource Survey Report, US 1*; Moore County deeds; *Sanford Express*, August 1, 1924; Moore County tax records for 1852 and 1858.

Possible slave house



Neil A. McNeill House

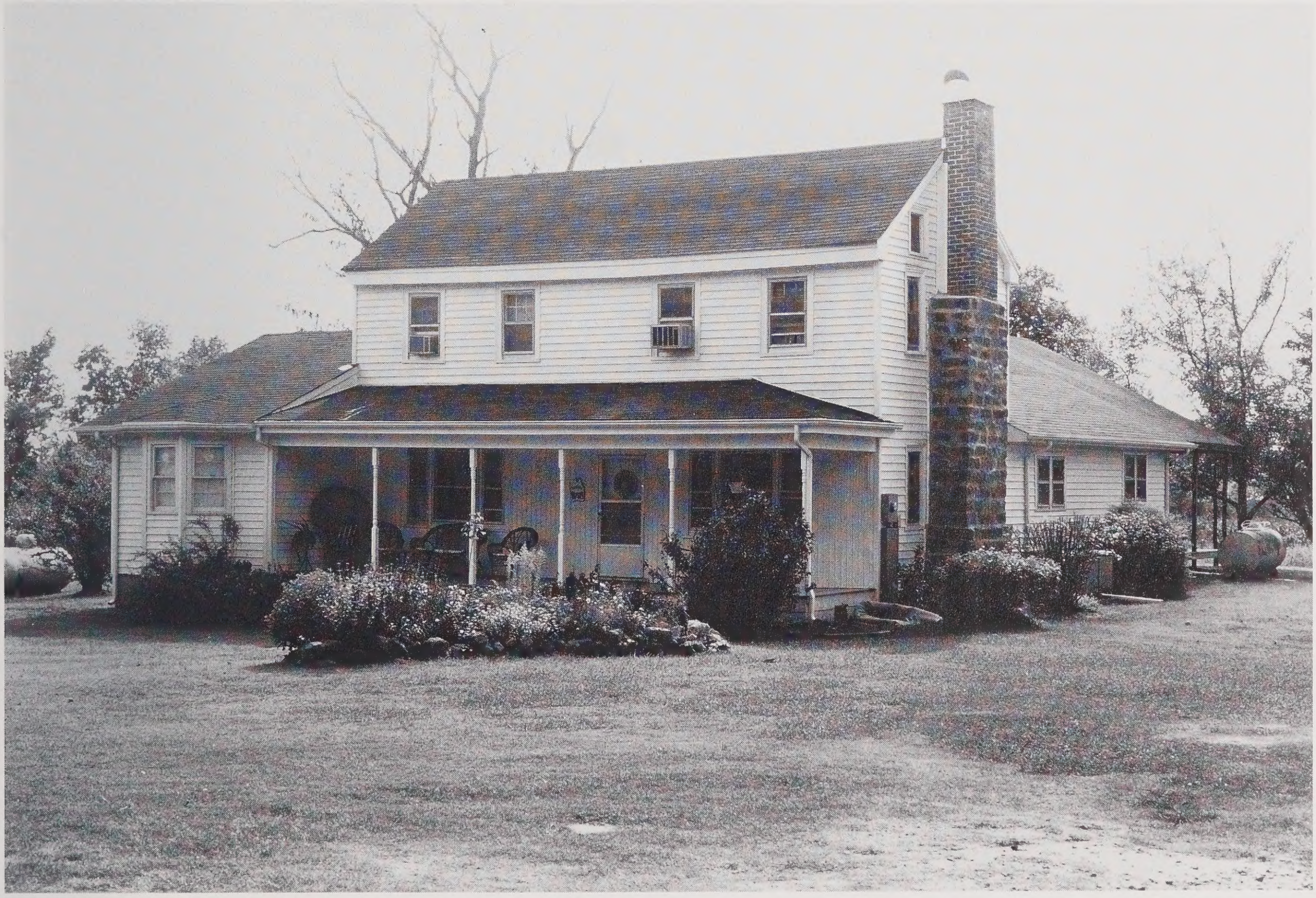
ANDREW COLE HOUSE

6207 Pocket Church Road (off Route 1318)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1860

An old anecdote may define the period of construction for this two-story frame house. Andrew Cole (1809–85), owner of a large plantation in the Pocket area, was a strict disciplinarian who supposedly employed his sons in building the house. A son who objected to the terms of employment ran off to join the Confederate army, which suggests that the house was built between 1861 and 1865. (Cole's wife, Katherine Cole, died in 1856, apparently before the house was begun.) Vestigial Greek Revival detailing and features such as small four-pane windows in the gables support a late-antebellum or 1860s date of construction. Other features include a brownstone chimney with a brick stack, a rebuilt one-story front porch, and extensive one-story rear and side additions. On the interior is a boxed one-run stair entered from a back porch or rear shed room (now incorporated into a rear addition). All the original mantels have been removed from the house, but there is evidence that they were of simple Greek Revival form. A slave cemetery is said to be located behind the house, and an early public school (the successor to the nearby Pocket Academy) formerly stood to the north of the house.

Owner: Inez O. Holt.

Sources: Jerry Holt; Oroon D. Palmer, Jr., Lee County historian; Kelly, *McIver Family*; U.S. census schedules.



Andrew Cole House

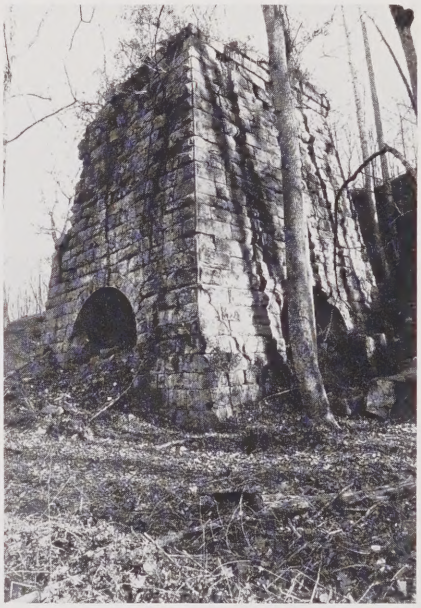
ENDOR IRON FURNACE

Iron Furnace Road (SR 1463)
Cumnock vicinity
Ca. 1862

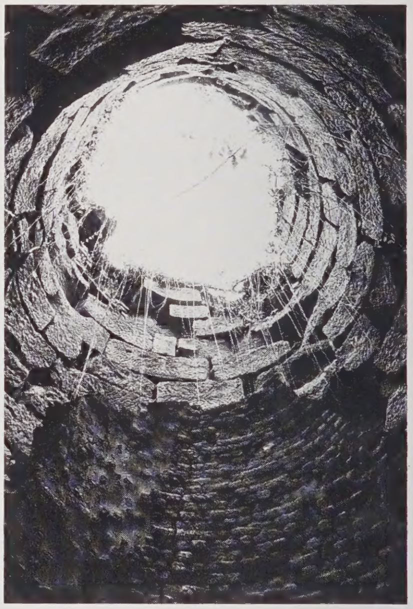
The roots of Lee County's ironmaking tradition reach back to the colonial period, when the Deep River Company established the Willcox Iron Works on the Deep River across from Gulf. A century later, during the Civil War, the South's critical need for iron reinvigorated the local industry. In 1862, J. W. Clegg and William McLane (McClane) contracted with the Confederate Navy to supply pig iron, blooms, plate, and hammered and rolled iron, and the Endor Iron Company was formed. The company purchased the Alexander McIver plantation, located in a bend of the Deep River east of Egypt, and either constructed this charcoal blast furnace or acquired it already built. (If the furnace was built before the formation of the Endor Iron Company, it may have been associated with the Peter Evans Rolling Mill, first mentioned in 1859.) In 1864, a bayonet factory operated in conjunction with the furnace. The furnace product was shipped to Fayetteville and Wilmington on the Deep and Cape Fear rivers; there is evidence that a dock area was located in front of the furnace, and upstream there is a ruined lock. In 1865, the furnace was operated by the Lockville Mining and Manufacturing Company, which ran the furnace, a foundry, and a blacksmith shop at the site. After the war, George Lobdell, president of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company in Wilmington, Delaware, gained control of the furnace and converted it to the hot blast process. Iron making had ceased at the furnace by 1876.

The furnace rises to an impressive thirty-five-foot height and is constructed of rough brownstone blocks. It features a standard truncated pyramidal form with large arched tuyeres (openings) at the base and a conical bosh on the interior. The corners of the stack, the rims of the arches, and the arch keystones have dressed and beveled edges, and the voussoir and keystone blocks have rock-faced finishes—a level of craftsmanship not often lavished on such structures. The siting of the furnace against a bluff allowed it to be charged from the top. At the top of this bluff is a retaining wall of undressed stones, and there are traces of roadways at the site, but otherwise all other above-ground structures have vanished. These structures would have included a casting house at the base of the furnace, a bridge for trundling materials from the bluff to the top of the furnace, and storage facilities for the ore, charcoal, flux, and fire clay used in the furnace operations.

Sources: "Endor Iron Furnace"; Robert Wiesner diagrams of furnace operation; Fowler, "Old Haywood"; *Sanford Express*, September 12, 1924; *The State*, April 19, 1941; Lockville Mining and Manufacturing Company 1865 Day Book, Southern Historical Collection; *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies*, ser. 2, 2:249.



Endor Iron Furnace (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



View looking up through the bosh (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

EGYPT BIG HOUSE (SAMUEL A. AND KATHERINE K. HENSZEY HOUSE)

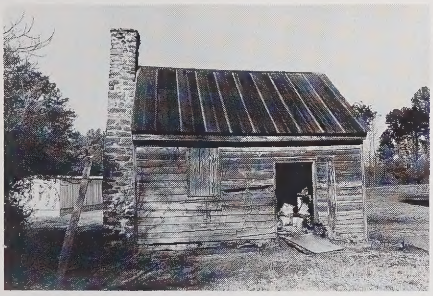
5621 Cumnock Road (SR 1400)
Cumnock
Ca. 1865

This interesting Greek Revival house—known in the 1800s as the "Egypt Big House"—and its equally intriguing detached kitchen are associated with the commercial coal mining that began at Egypt (Cumnock) during the 1850s. The house is said to have served as a Confederate hospital after an engagement near Fayetteville in 1865. During the late 1880s and 1890s, it was occupied by Samuel Alexander Henszey, manager of the Egypt Coal Company, and his wife Katherine. Henszey is credited with reopening the coal mine and developing the village of Cumnock. In 1913, the Henszeys sold the property to their son, Samuel A. Henszey, Jr. In the 1920s, Samuel, Jr., and his mother traveled from their home in New York to spend several weeks each summer at the house.

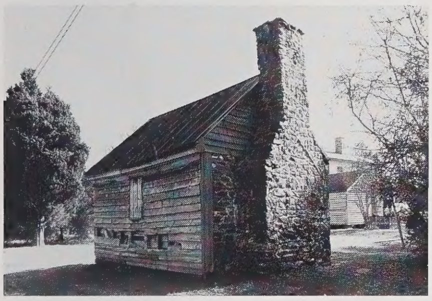
The two-story frame house has a hip roof, a wraparound one-story porch supported by octagonal columns, and Greek Revival mantels and peaked door lintels on the interior. To the rear is a porch with an enclosed upper tier said to have been used as an office. The office (which probably dates to after 1888) has a commanding view of the Western Railroad line (now Norfolk Southern) and the site of the coal mine and ancillary buildings. Behind the house stands a one-story building with a massive brownstone end chimney and a stone end wall up to the level of the gable. This mortise-and-tenoned frame building may have served as a slave house and/or kitchen. Also on the property are a board-and-batten carriage house and miscellaneous farm buildings.

Owner: Mannie W. Spivey.

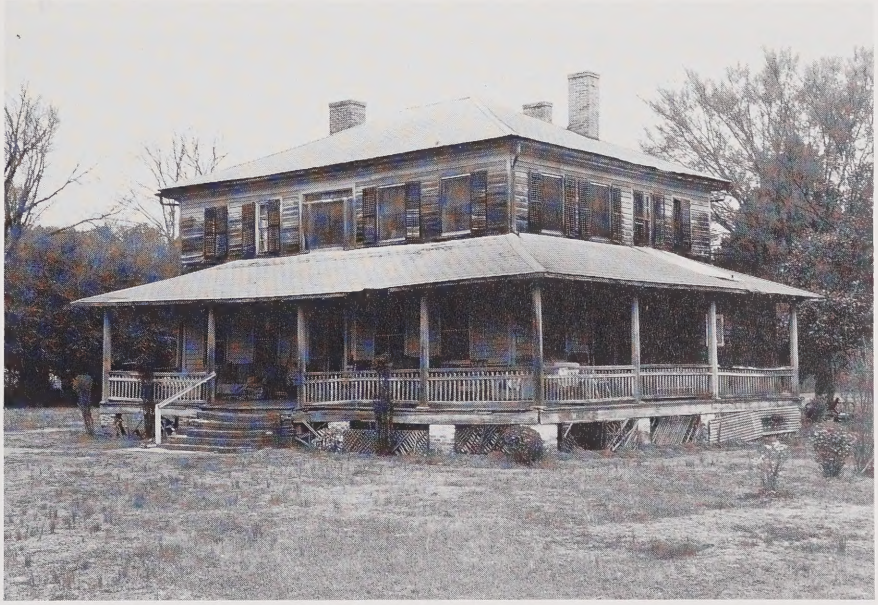
Sources: Mannie W. Spivey; James Vann Comer and Isabel H. Lawrence, Lee County historians; Hester Collection; Chatham County Deed Book 13, p. 188; 1888 Egypt plat.



Possible slave house



Possible slave house, rear view



Egypt Big House

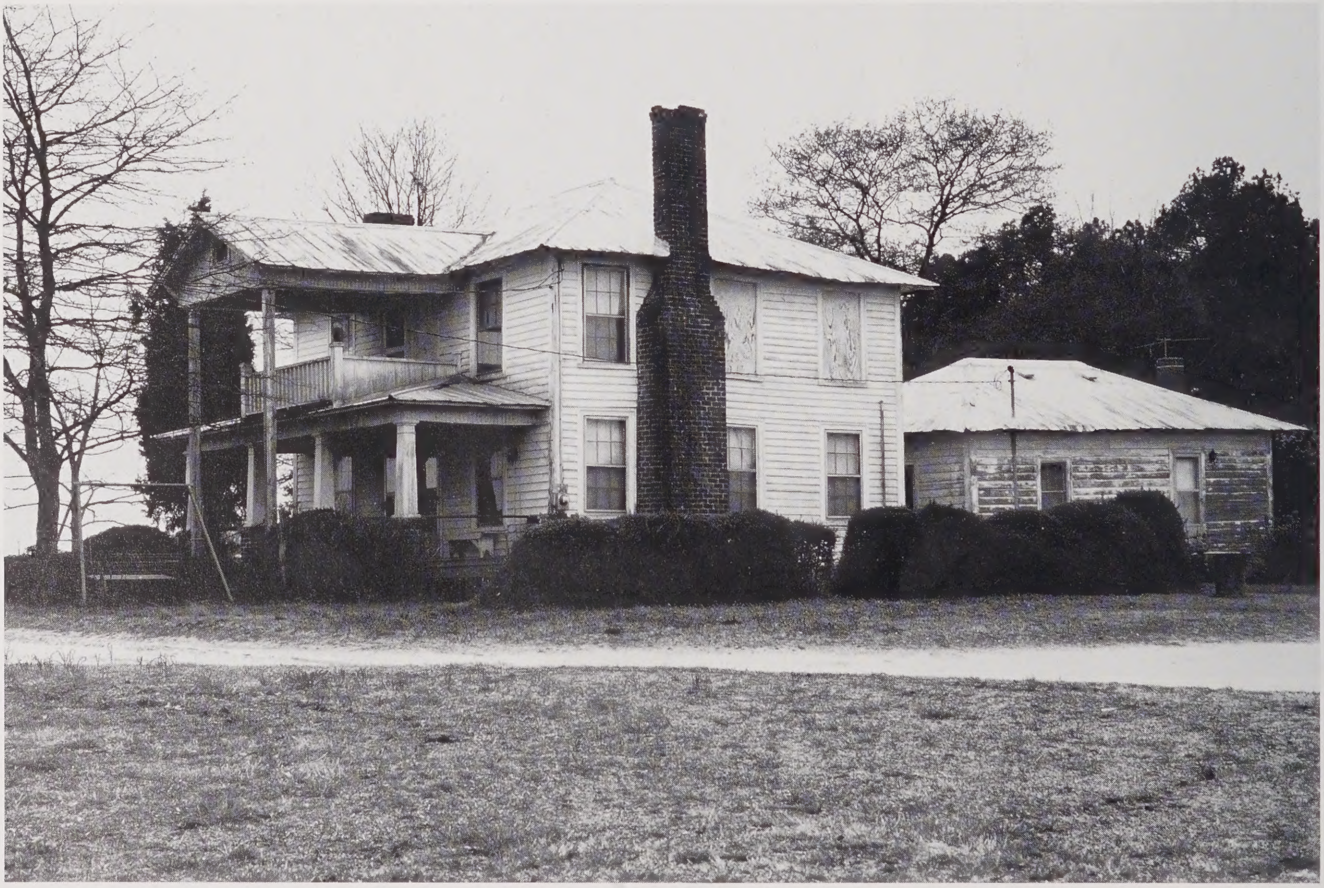
2917 John Rosser Road (SR 1533)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1865

Joseph Mervin Gunter (1832–1901) operated a mill and cotton gin on Patchet Creek during the late 1800s. Joseph and his wife, Mattie Gunter (b. 1840), probably had this two-story frame house built at about the time of the Civil War. A nephew of the Gunters, Joseph Wellins Gunter (1869–1937), is said to have been born in the house.

The Gunter House has a four-bay facade that reflects a two-room-plan interior. The hip-roofed house once featured a two-tier front porch; about 1930 this porch was replaced by an unusual Craftsman portico. Other exterior features include brick side chimneys with quartzite rubble bases, and an early, semidetached, rear kitchen wing. Inside are simple Greek Revival mantels and a stair that rises from a back room up through one of the front rooms. The house has the common Lee County arrangement of full-sized rooms in front of smaller rear rooms. The nearby frame tobacco barn, built by Joseph W. Gunter after World War I, has plaster-and-lath interior walls to retain heat during the curing process.

Owners: Thomas L. and Mary R. Maddox.

Sources: Thomas L. Maddox; Virginia Maddox; McDuffie map; business directories.



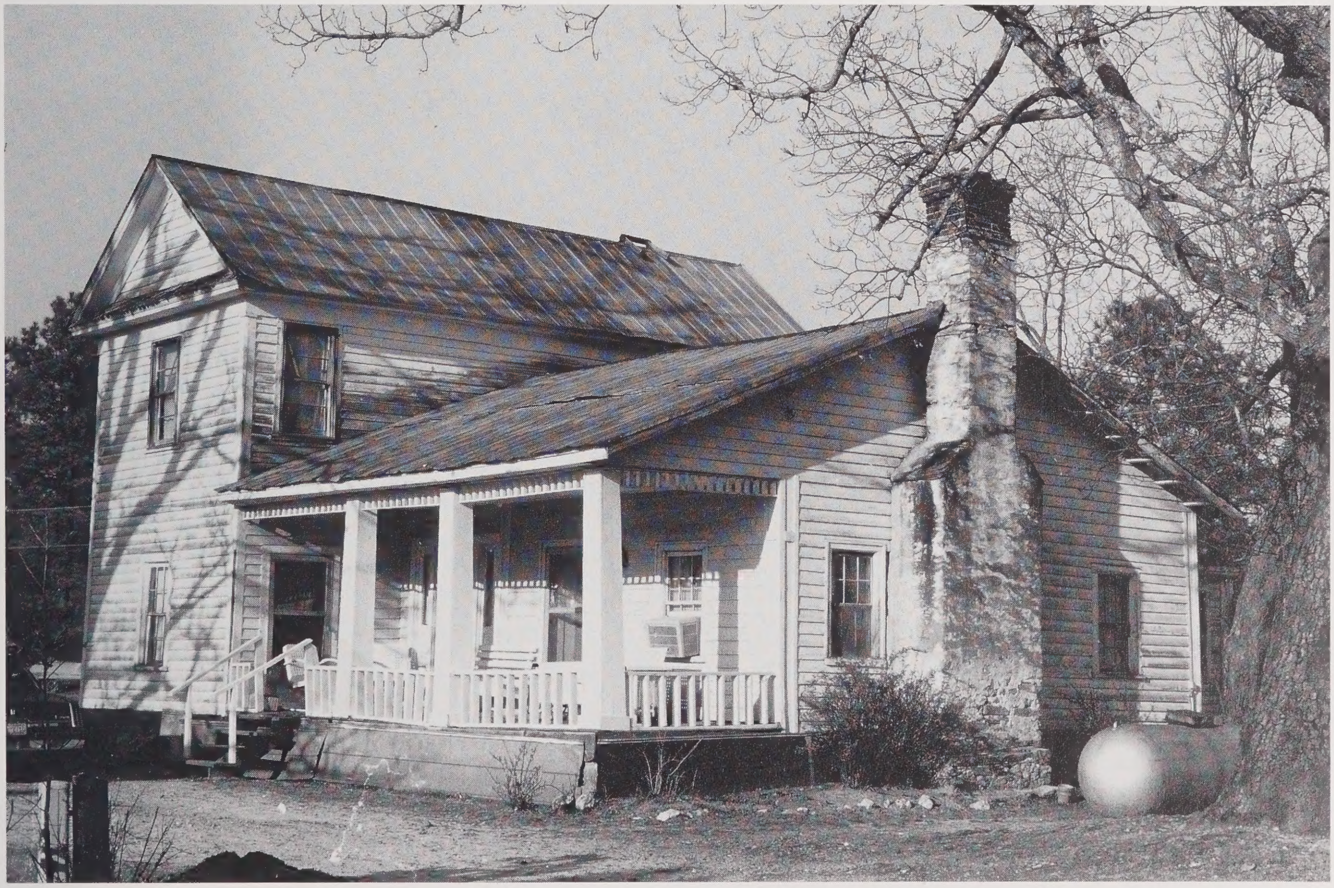
Joseph M. and Mattie Gunter House

Off Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1866

Jefferson Thomas, who was born about 1833, is credited with building the original one-story section of this frame house, probably in the 1860s: the date 1866 is scratched into the parging on a stone chimney. In 1906, descendants S. F. and M. P. Thomas sold the 192.5-acre property to James Robert Howard, who promptly added a two-story section with a stone and brick chimney to the north gable end of the original house. Howard operated a store and a cotton gin in buildings located between the house and Buckhorn Road. John Leo Tolstoy Howard (1918–66) owned the property in more recent years.

The original section of the house has Greek Revival details, such as paneled corner pilasters and gable outriggers, and an engaged front porch supported by thick, square, slightly tapered wood pillars. The interior of the original section is sheathed in modern paneling, but the interior of the two-story addition features original tongue-and-groove sheathing and a mantel with diagonal beaded tongue-and-groove work in its frieze. The upstairs of the addition, reached by an enclosed stair, originally contained one large room partitioned off by curtains into children's bedrooms.

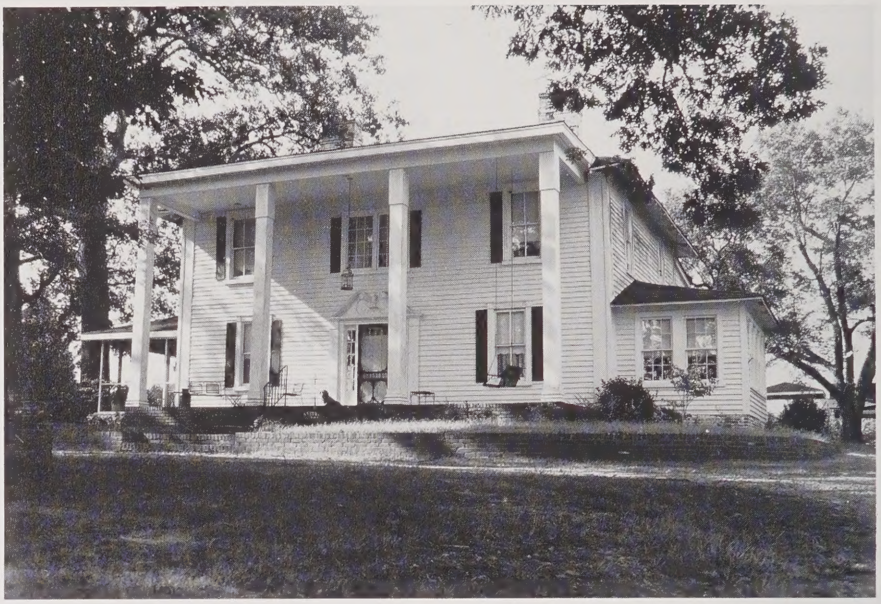
Sources: Ann Howard Carlyle; Vernie Womack and Lillian and Robert Thomas, Broadway-area historians; Moore County Deed Book 63, p. 486; U.S. census schedules.



Thomas-Howard House

M. HENRY AND SALLIE H. McIVER HOUSE

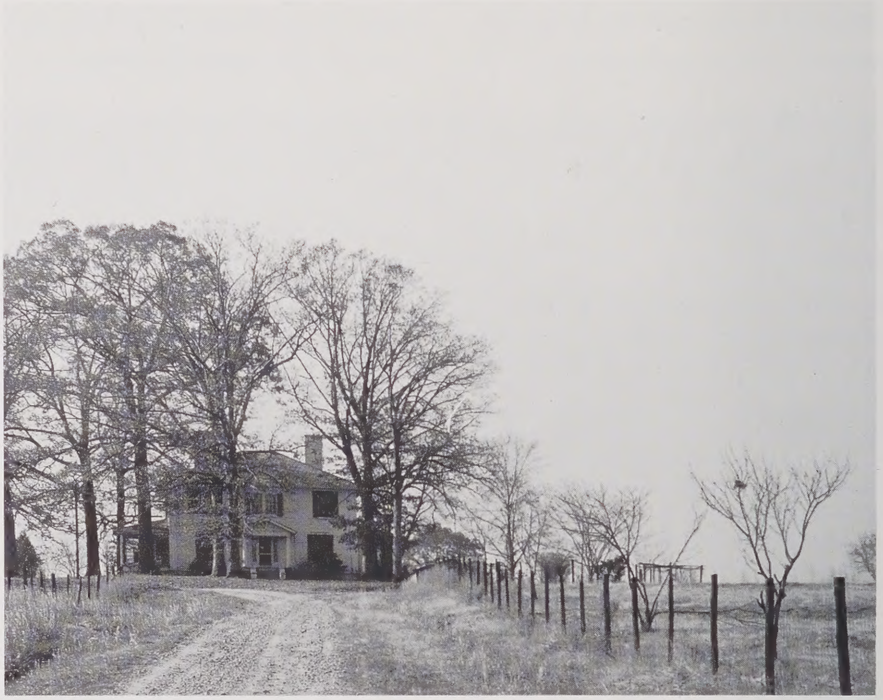
2101 Boone Trail Road (NC 421)
Sanford vicinity
1866–67



M. Henry and Sallie H. McIver House

This grand Greek Revival house was the boyhood home of renowned North Carolina educator Charles D. McIver. It was built in 1866–67 for his parents, Matthew Henry McIver (1834–94) and Sallie Harrington McIver, on a portion of the Evander McIver plantation. Henry McIver served in the Confederate army, and with several relatives he operated McIvers, early Sanford's principal general store.

The two-story frame house has a hip roof, paneled corner pilasters, and decorative rafter tails—standard features among McIver family houses of the period. The modern two-story front porch, which is at least the third porch on the house, shelters a Colonial Revival entry surround. The interior—also remodeled in the Colonial Revival style—retains traces of the original Greek Revival detailing and has a two-room-deep center-passage plan. Behind the house is a gambrel-roofed barn believed to date from the 1910s, when the Dimmick family operated a dairy farm here. The McIver House was built in an oak grove, and a number of old oaks still shade the grounds.



Historic view of farm, mid-twentieth century
(Courtesy of O. F. Patterson, Jr.)

Owner: Evelyn H. Poe.

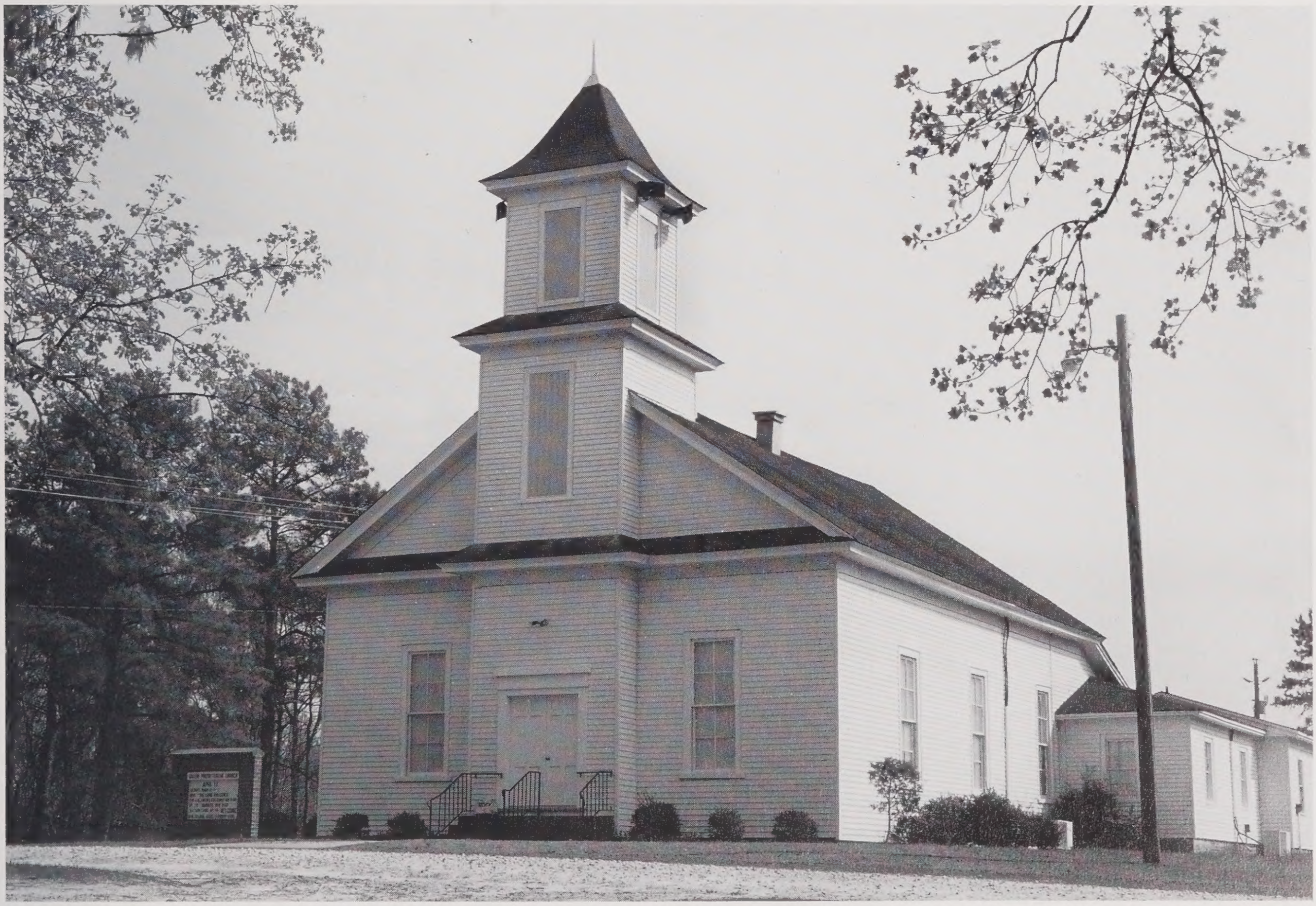
Sources: Evelyn H. Poe; Freda (Dimmick) Kriminger; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; *Sanford Express*, October 25, 1894; Chatham County deeds; highway marker in front of house; Holder, *McIver of North Carolina*.

1336 Avents Ferry Road (NC 42)
Broadway vicinity
1868

Salem Presbyterian Church was organized in 1868 and first met in the present church building, erected by church elder William McNair on land donated by Absalom Kelly. Early members of the congregation included freedmen who had formerly been slaves of Dr. John W. McKay.

Salem Church is a frame building with a nave form, a pedimented front-gable roof, and a central entry tower with a pyramidal roof. Round logs were used as uprights at the corners of the church and were notched to receive interior sheathing boards—an unusual structural feature. Recent alterations include aluminum siding and extensive rear additions. The church is said to have formerly featured a balcony used by the black members of the congregation. A one-room school known as the Salem Academy stood behind the church during the late 1800s (possibly as early as 1868). One of the earlier headstones in the cemetery located off the west side of the church is that of John Sheppard (1798–1871): a simple peaked marble monument carved at the George Lauder works in Fayetteville.

Sources: Elinor Guerard, Nannie L. Dalrymple, and Robert W. Dalrymple, longtime area residents; "A Brief Historical Sketch of the Salem Presbyterian Church"; Woman's Club, *Broadway*, 22–23.



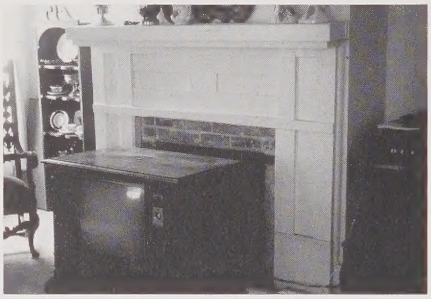
Salem Presbyterian Church

109 Woolard Road
Carbonton
Ca. 1870

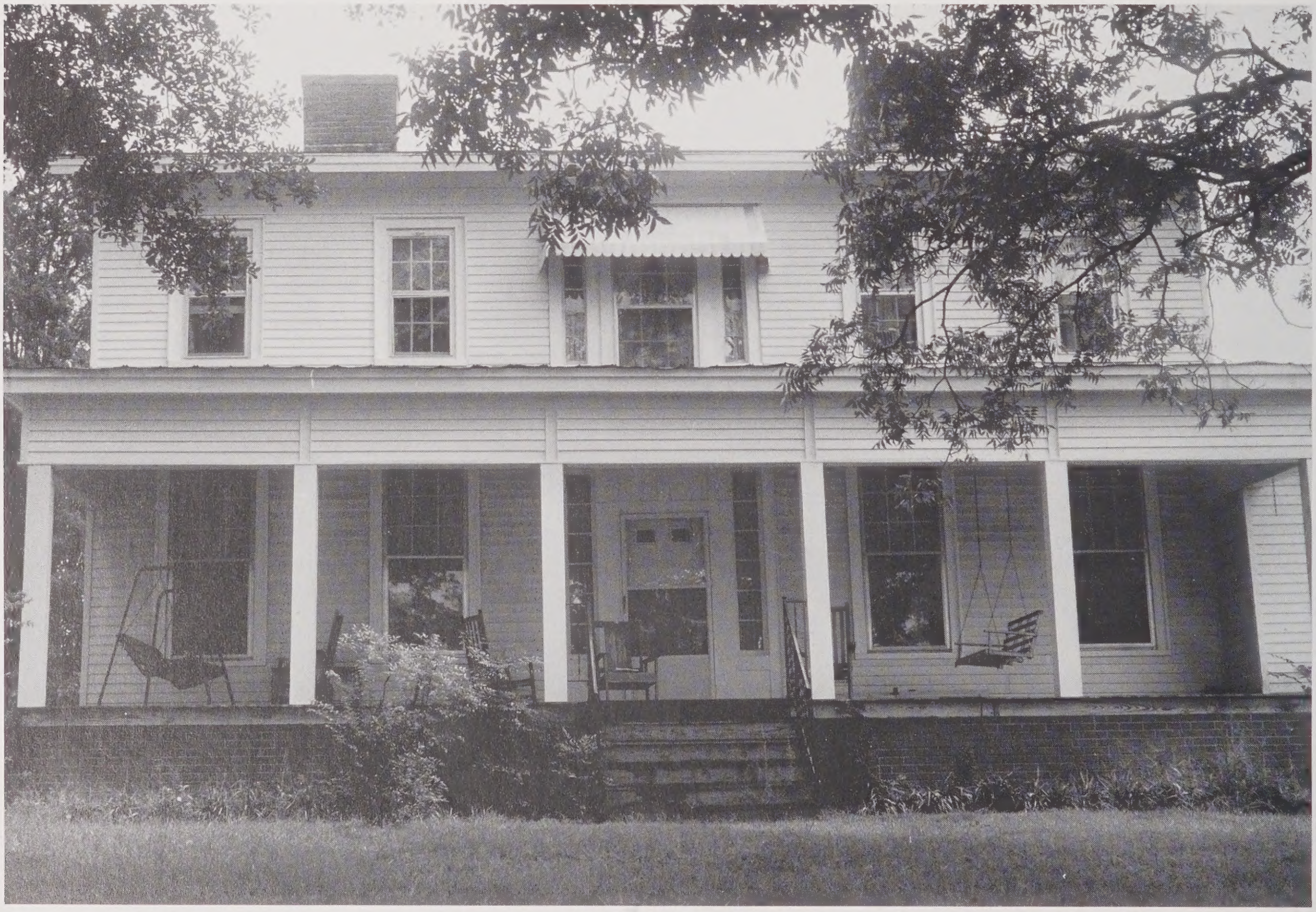
Deed records suggest that this two-story frame house was built for Bright Roberts, probably about 1870—a date supported by the Greek Revival style of the house. The house has an imposing two-room-deep form with a five-bay front elevation. The entry sheltered by the one-story front porch has a geometric surround with conventional sidelights but blank panels in place of the usual transom. An ell and modern additions extend to the rear and west side. The unusual geometric quality of the front entry also characterizes the interior detailing, best observed in the front parlor mantel, with its recessed pilaster and frieze panels and intersecting fillets, and in the paneled spandrel of the stair at the back of the center passage.

Owners: Julian W. and Stella B. Mashburn.

Sources: Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; Thomas W. Poe, Jr., longtime area resident.



Mantel in first-story northeast room



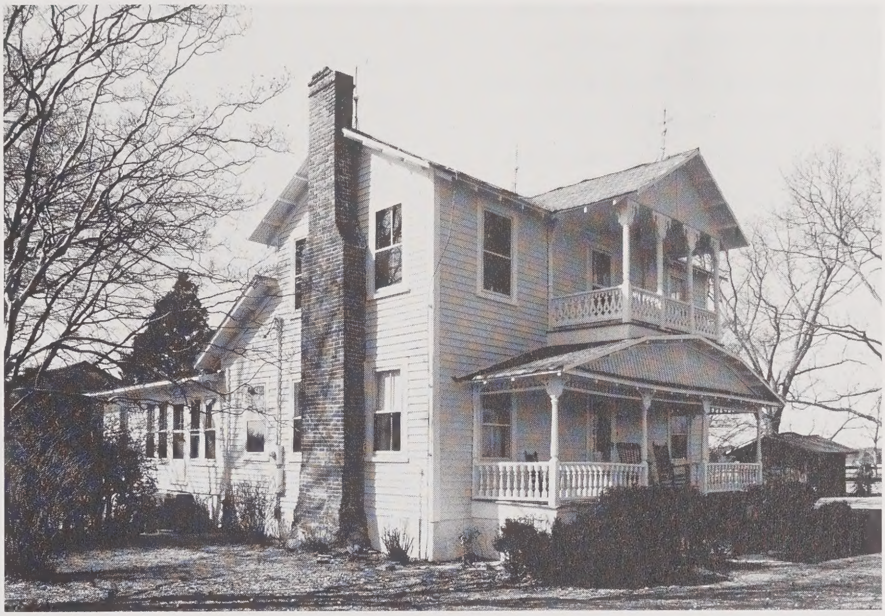
Roberts House

4100 St. Andrews Church Road
(SR 1146)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1870

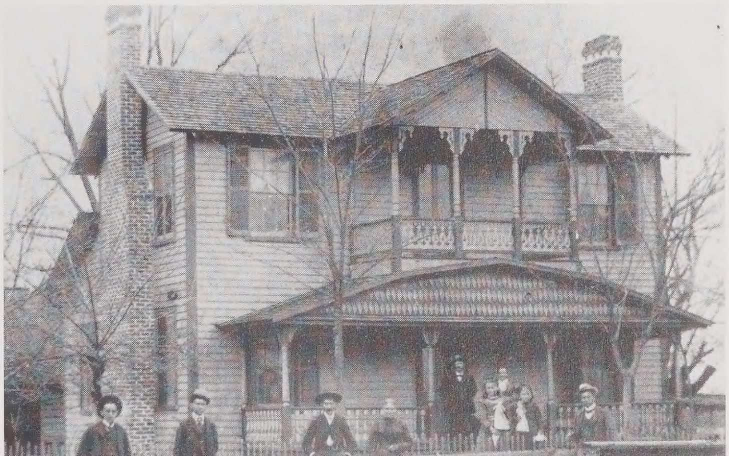
The Leslie-Winstead House stands on property that was owned by Howell Lashley in the early 1800s. Howell Lashley's son Patrick (1808–58) next owned the property, followed by Patrick Lashley's son John Archibald Leslie (1852–1911). The original house on the property was a log dwelling; the present house may have been built by Patrick Lashley in the 1850s, but it is more likely that it was built by John A. Leslie in the 1870s. The vernacular Greek Revival detailing of the interior would support either a late antebellum or early postwar date of construction, but the traditional 1840 date is probably too early for the house. D. W. Winstead, Sr., purchased the house in the late 1910s, and the Winstead family donated it to the Lee County Historical and Genealogical Society in 1974. The society owned the property for several years before returning it to the Winsteads.

The Leslie-Winstead House is a two-story frame dwelling distinguished by its fanciful Victorian front porch. The porch is composed of a lower level under a shallow gambrel roof, with sawtooth wood-shingle sheathing in the roof end, and an upper level with a tongue-and-groove-sheathed gable. Both levels are supported by turned posts with sawn brackets and were once highlighted with a decorative paint scheme. Other exterior features include gable-end brick chimneys, two-over-two-sash windows that replace earlier six-over-six-sash windows, and exposed rafter tails and gable outriggers. To the rear are a range of one-story shed rooms and a one-story ell. The interior is characterized by a one-room-deep center-passage plan and vernacular Greek Revival mantels. Also on the property is a heavy framed meat house that may be earlier than the house. The house was once illuminated by carbide lights, and a brick-tile sweet potato curing barn formerly stood on the property.

Owner: Edward T. Lawrence.
Sources: Edward T. Lawrence; Little-Stokes, "Architectural Character of the Leslie-Winstead House"; *Sanford Herald*, April 30 and November 2, 1974, and March 25, 1978.



Leslie-Winstead House (Photo by Michael T. Southern, 1985, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



Historic view, early twentieth century

MORRISON FARM

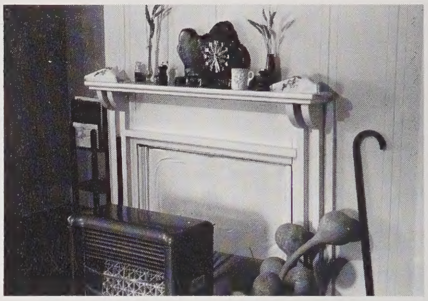
6301 Rocky Fork Church Road (SR 1179)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1870

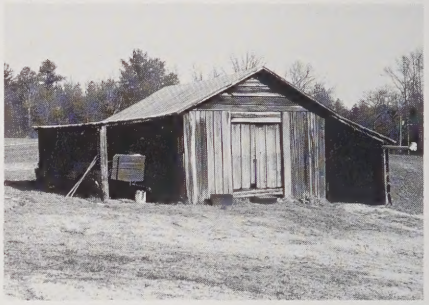
The earliest known owners of this Sandhills farm were the Morrisons, who were "turpentine people," according to the present owner of the property. Deeds suggest that Morrisons were living in the area as early as the 1830s; one early owner may have been Allen Blue Morrison. An 1874 map shows an S. Morrison living at the location, probably in the log dwelling that forms the core of the present farmhouse. Duncan Morrison is said to have moved here from Harnett County in 1894. On the farm, he ran a small store where he collected crude turpentine from his neighbors and refined it at his distillery, which was located beside the tracks of the nearby Seaboard Railroad.

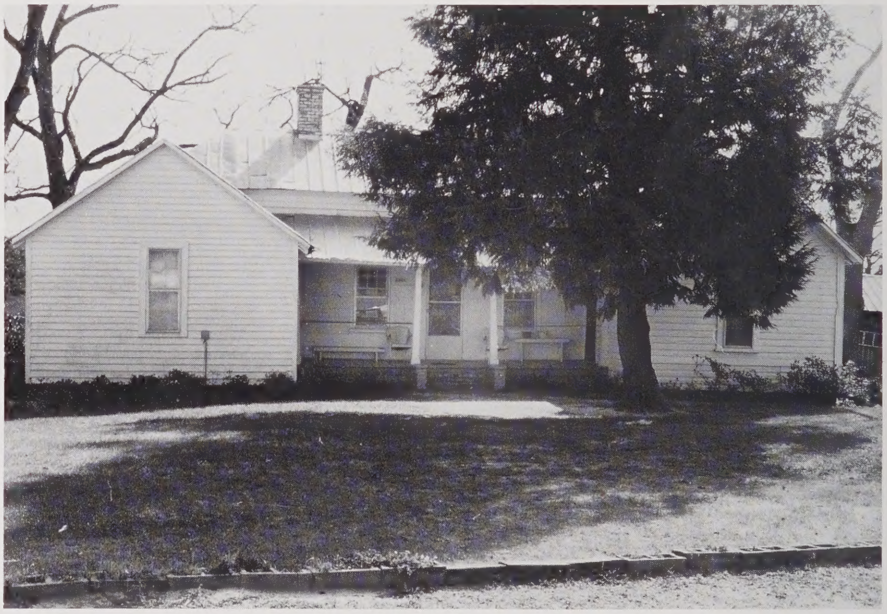
The Morrison farmhouse is a hip-roofed, one-story dwelling with symmetrical gabled frame additions on each end and rear additions, including an early, formerly separate kitchen/dining room that was joined to the house about 1900. The porch across the front of the center log section stands on tapered square wood posts and shelters a flush-board-sheathed house wall with two six-over-nine-sash windows. Inside, the log section contains a vernacular Victorian mantel with paired pilaster strips and quarter-round brackets. The dining room in the ell has a Greek Revival mantel with a single frieze panel, and the ell kitchen features a vernacular Greek Revival mantel with half-round pilaster shafts.

Surrounding the house are several early domestic outbuildings, including a log meat house (possibly part of an early dwelling or other building), a board-and-batten storage shed, and an asphalt-sided frame "food house" for the storage of canned goods. In front of the house is a two-bay frame garage and the vertical-board building that served as Duncan Morrison's store and turpentine collection point. Also on the farm are a frame barn, a latticed corncrib, extensive pig and cow lots, a frame tenant house dating to about 1930, and tobacco barns.

Owner: Billy Sellars.
Sources: Mr. and Mrs. Billy Sellars; James Vann Comer, Lee County historian; Effie Fields, longtime area resident; Moore County deeds; Kerr, "Map of the Raleigh & Augusta . . . from Raleigh to Sanford."


Mantel in log section of house


Duncan Morrison Store


Morrison House

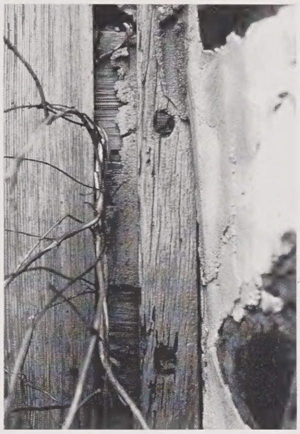
JOHN AND ELIZABETH M. COLE HOUSE

Blackstone Road (SR 1313)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1870

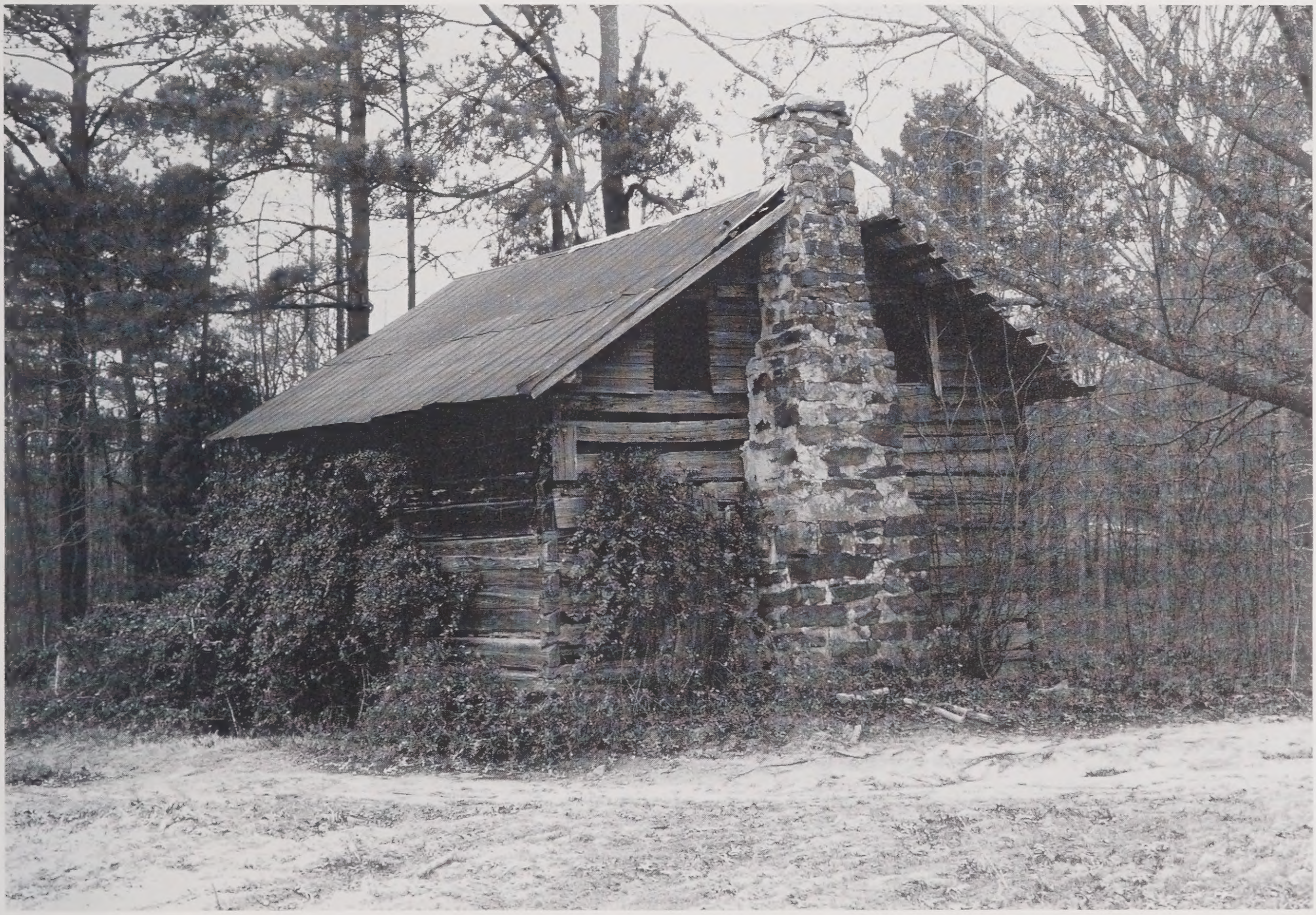
John and Elizabeth "Betsy" McDonald Cole, who lived in this half-dovetailed log dwelling during the latter part of the nineteenth century, may have built the house at the time of their marriage. Charles Black later owned the house. The one-story dwelling has a garret under a rebuilt gable roof and a brownstone chimney on the north gable end. On either side of the chimney firebox are odd trim boards with a regular series of peg holes bored into them. These boards may serve to hold the wall logs in place where they are interrupted by the chimney opening. The Cole House may originally have had a wooden chimney.

Owner: Norris D. Johnson.

Sources: Mack Wicker, Lee County historian; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*, 7.



Detail of wood strip at junction of logs and chimney



John and Elizabeth M. Cole House

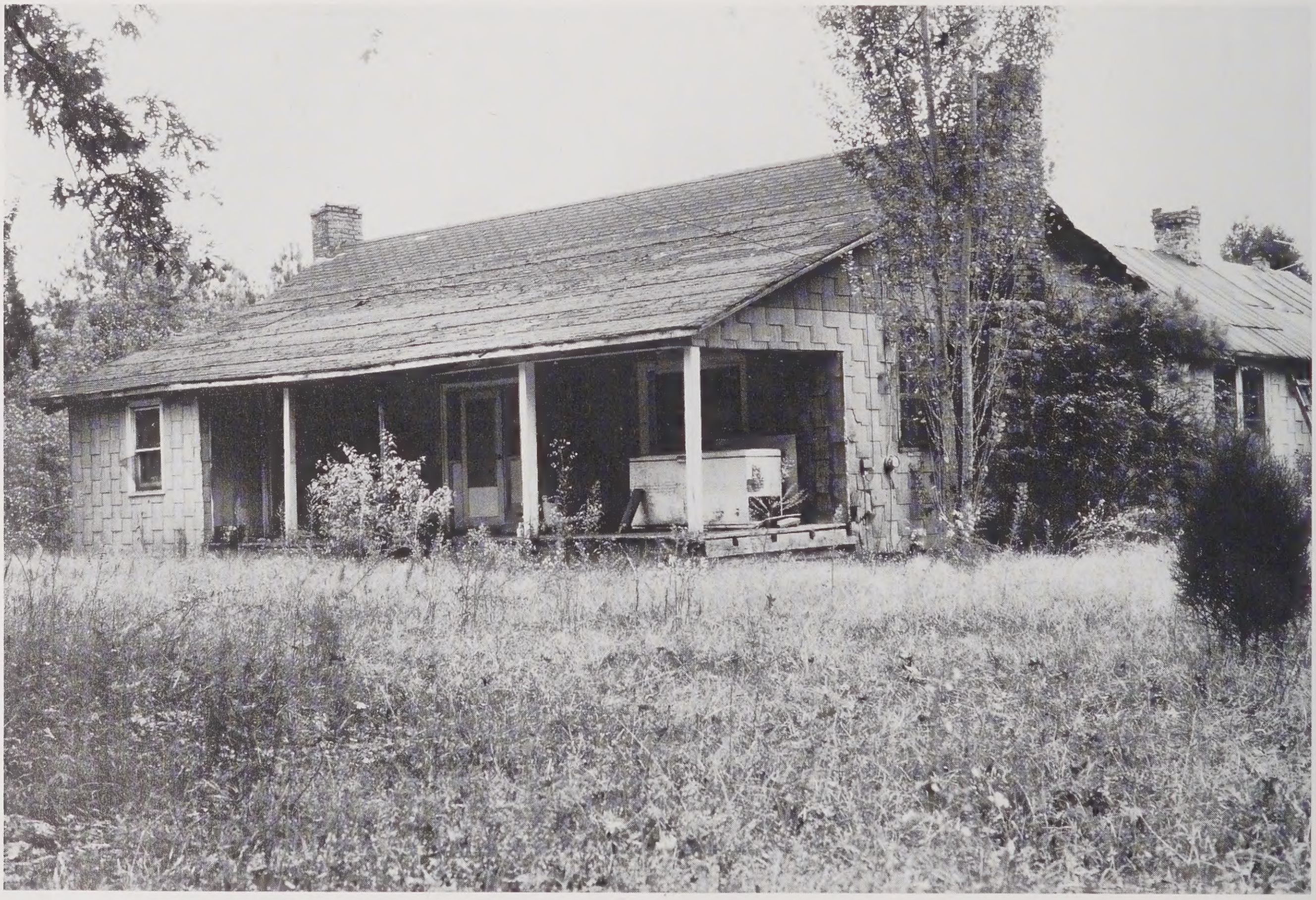
CHRISTOPHER C. AND GEORGIA P. COLE HOUSE

Chris Cole Road (SR 1300)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1870

John Cole (1809–90) may have been the original owner of this one-story frame house, in which his son and daughter-in-law, Christopher Columbus Cole (1858–1941) and Georgia Parkham Cole (d. 1916), are known to have lived. The construction of the house and the vernacular Greek Revival detailing of its interior suggest a date of construction during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The asphalt-sided house has an engaged front porch with a porch room and several nine-over-six-sash windows. On the gable ends rise brownstone chimneys with brick stacks, and in the gables are small windows—indications that the garret may once have served as living space. An ell with side porches extends to the rear.

On the inside, the house features an uncommonly wide center passage divided from the two main rooms by board-and-batten partitions. The ceiling joists are left exposed, and other interior finishes include low wainscots and Greek Revival mantels, some with single frieze panels, others with conventional pilaster-and-frieze compositions. Behind the house stands a weatherboarded frame meat house with reused strap hinges on its batten door.

Owner: Mrs. Rupert S. Cole.
Sources: Mack Wicker, Lee County historian; Kelly, *McIver Family.*



Christopher C. and Georgia P. Cole House

DALRYMPLE-BLUE HOUSE

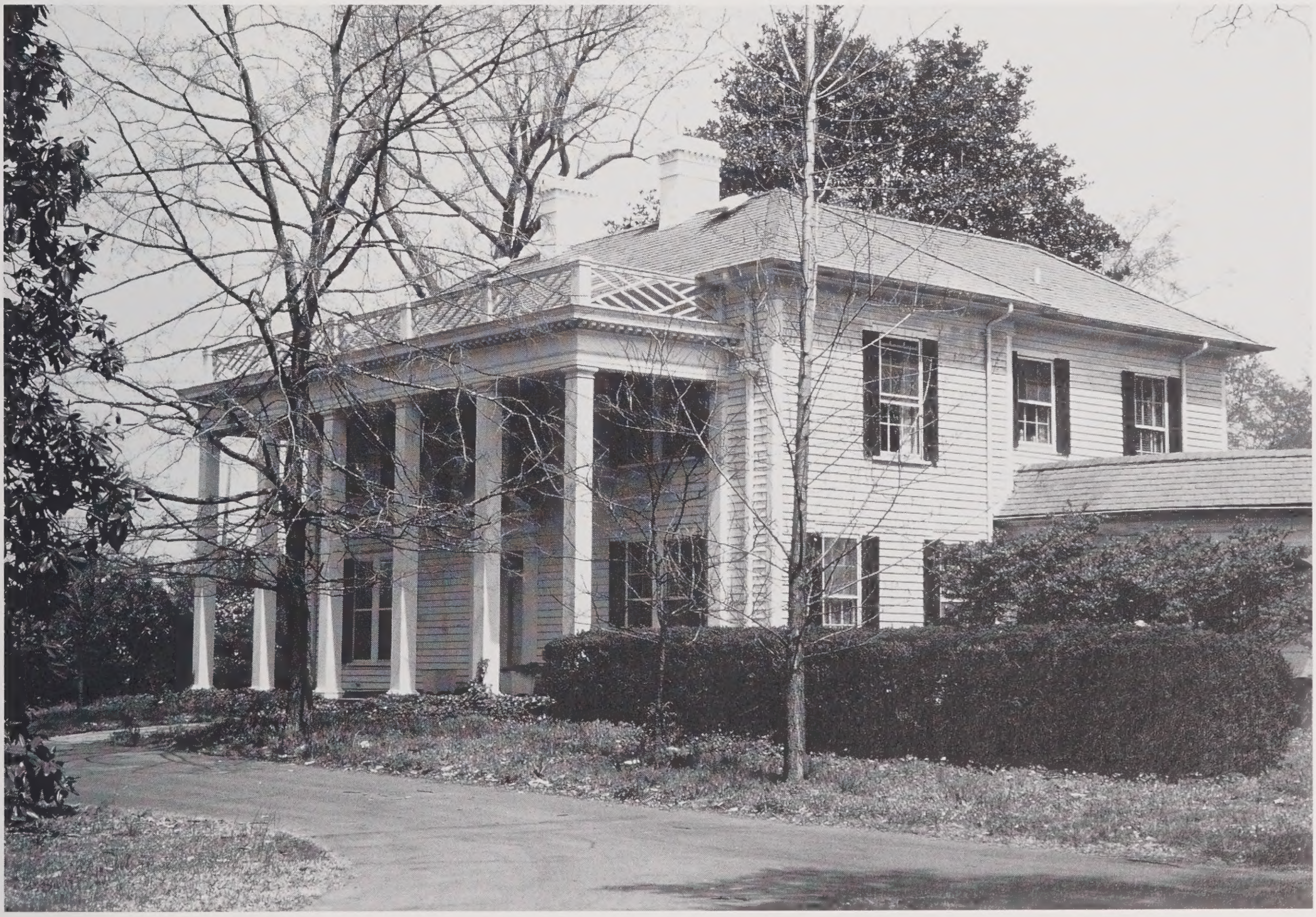
2505 Dalrymple Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1870

According to tradition, the front section of this two-story frame house was begun shortly after the Civil War by Confederate army veteran James Dalrymple (b. ca. 1836), who in 1866 purchased forty-three acres on the east side of the Western Railroad in what was then developing as the downtown area of Jonesboro. Dalrymple was a cotton farmer and dry goods merchant; with J. Alton McIver he established the successful general store and cotton-buying house of McIver & Dalrymple. Annie Dalrymple, a later occupant of the house (and possibly James Dalrymple's daughter), taught school in Jonesboro beginning in the 1910s. About 1942, the house was damaged by fire and completely remodeled in the Colonial Revival style by Dr. Waylon and Margaret Blue.

This remodeling gave the Dalrymple-Blue House its monumental portico supported by square columns and capped by a Chinese-inspired balustrade. A curved arcaded hyphen connects to a garage or carriage house on the south side of the house. The front entry has a leaded glass transom and a broken pediment surround. A bay window on the north elevation is an early feature.

Owners: Dennis L. and Donna M. Mast.

Sources: Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; Dr. John Blue; Thelma Harrington and Peggy Womble, longtime Jonesboro residents; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; *Sanford Herald*, November 14, 1987; Moore County Deed Book 8, p. 367; business directories; Sanborn maps.



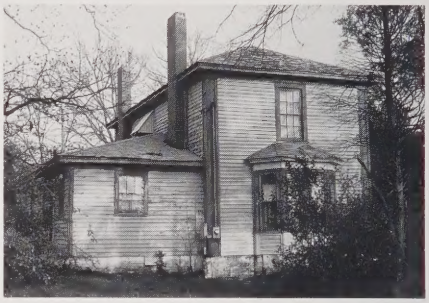
Dalrymple-Blue House

223 East Main Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1870

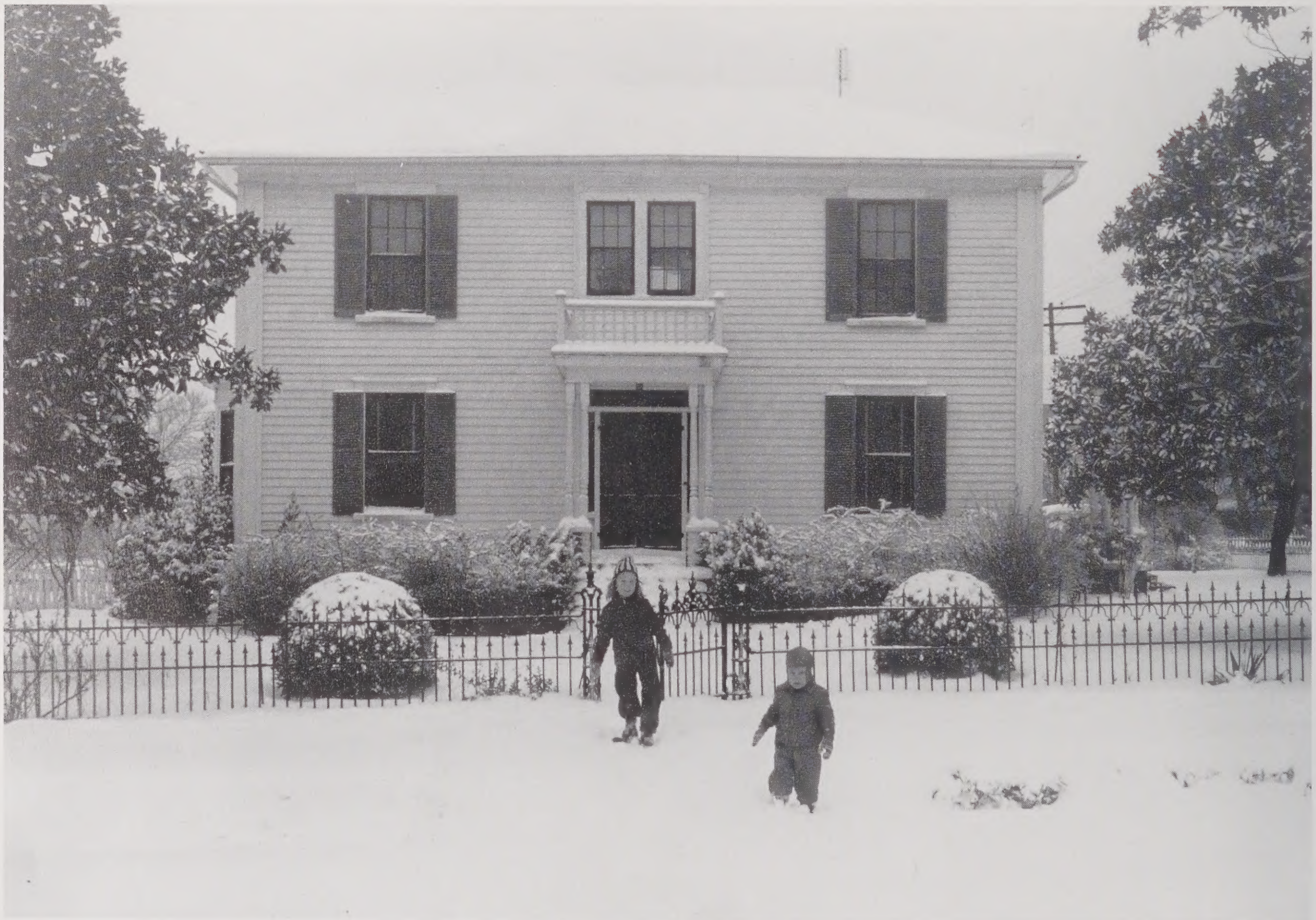
Sion Buchanan (b. ca. 1850) was reputed to be Jonesboro's wealthiest citizen during the late 1800s. Buchanan was a dry goods merchant, a dealer in "fine buggies, phaetons and wagons," and president of an early Jonesboro bank (in existence by 1898). Among his many enterprises was the Tinney (or Tenny) Inn, also known as The Birches, a sprawling hotel that formerly stood on Lee Avenue. Teachers are said to have boarded with Sion and his wife, Maggie A. Buchanan. In his later years, Buchanan is said to have lived at his hotel and to have visited his house only at mealtimes. A later owner of the house was Dr. Rufus Hartness, who had an office next door.

This two-story frame house, which was probably built about 1870 or earlier, was owned by Buchanan at the end of the 1800s, although it is not known whether he built the house. The house has Greek Revival exterior details such as corner pilasters and fluted window surrounds. On the south end is a bay window with orange, red, green, and blue stained glass, and two brick chimneys rise to the rear. A small modern porch with turned posts replaces the original two-story front porch. The interior features a center-passage plan and colonnetted mantels that are early but not original to the house. A decorative iron fence, said to have been purchased by Buchanan from a supplier in Birmingham, Alabama, borders the front yard.

Sources: Philip McDavid and Alice Garrison, Lee County historians; Frances and Mrs. James T. Buchanan; Seawell Collection; *Sanford Herald*, May 10, 1980; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; census; business directories.



Rear and west side elevation



Sion H. and Maggie A. Buchanan House, photo ca. 1948 (Courtesy of Dr. Rufus Hartness)

McGILVARY HOUSE

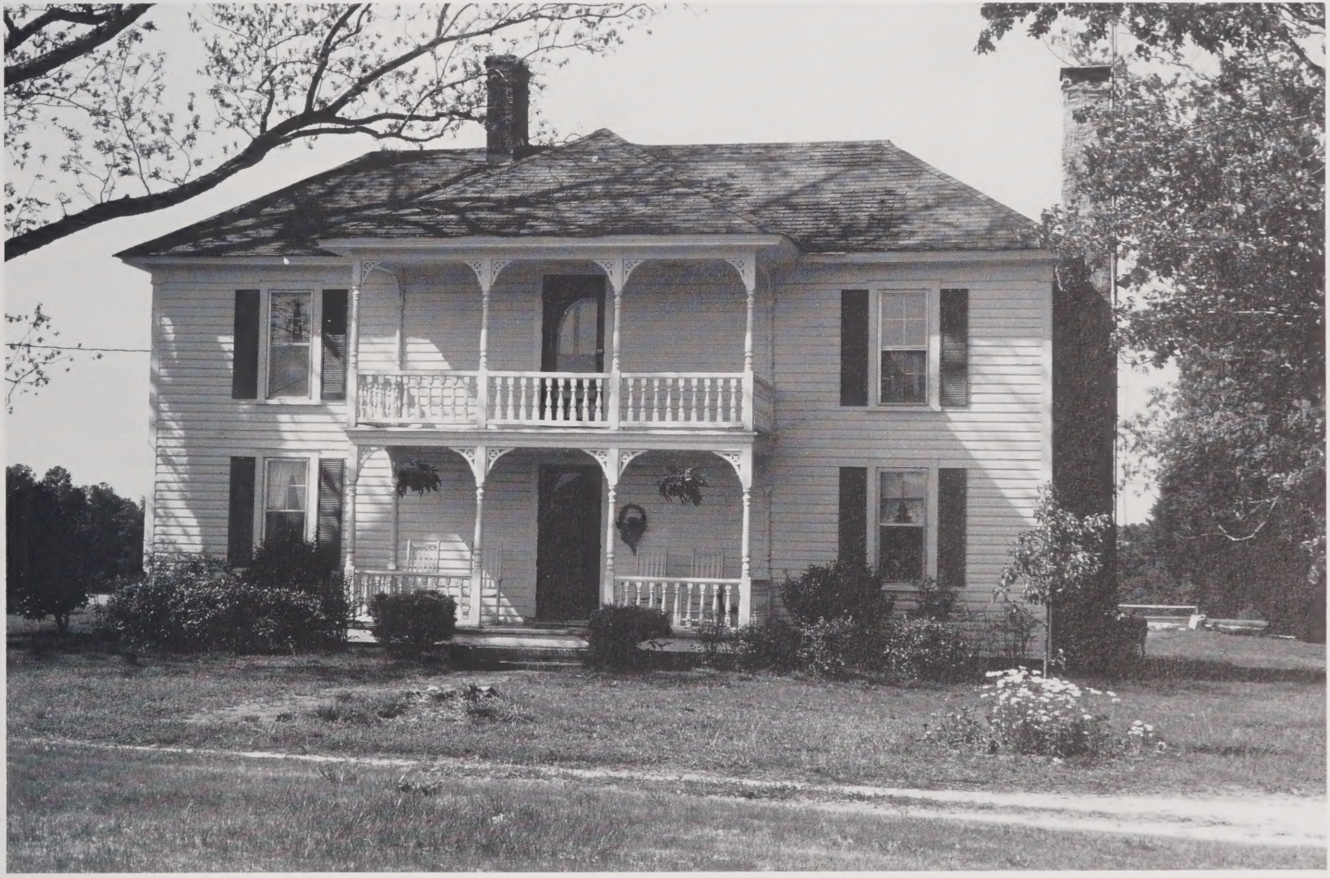
5429 Edwards Road (SR 1101)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1870

This two-story frame house is said to incorporate the older dwelling of Archibald McGilvary (also spelled MacGillivray), who emigrated to Lee County from the Isle of Skye in 1802. Archibald's son Alexander later owned the property, and Alexander's son Evander Jackson is believed to have been born in 1859 in the house's original section. In 1915, the house was acquired by Julian "Jack" Matthews, originally of Mecklenburg County.

The straight-sawn, mortise-and-tenoned construction of the McGilvary House suggests a date of construction in the mid-1800s or earlier. The east end of the house and a former rear shed room may represent the original dwelling. The exterior features brick and stone chimneys, a one-story ell, and a centered two-tier front porch with turned posts and balusters and sawn brackets incorporating star motifs. On the interior are late Greek Revival mantels that probably date to the 1870s or 1880s, as well as one Victorian mantel with reeding and applied ornament. In the center passage rises a stair with turned newels and balusters. The property once featured a semidetached rear kitchen and dining room, several log barns, and a granary used to store wheat and corn.

Owner: Richard R. Christian.
Sources: Alice Christian; Lucille McGilvary, longtime area resident; Steiner and Steiner, *MacGillivrays of Skye*.

Mantel in first-story west room



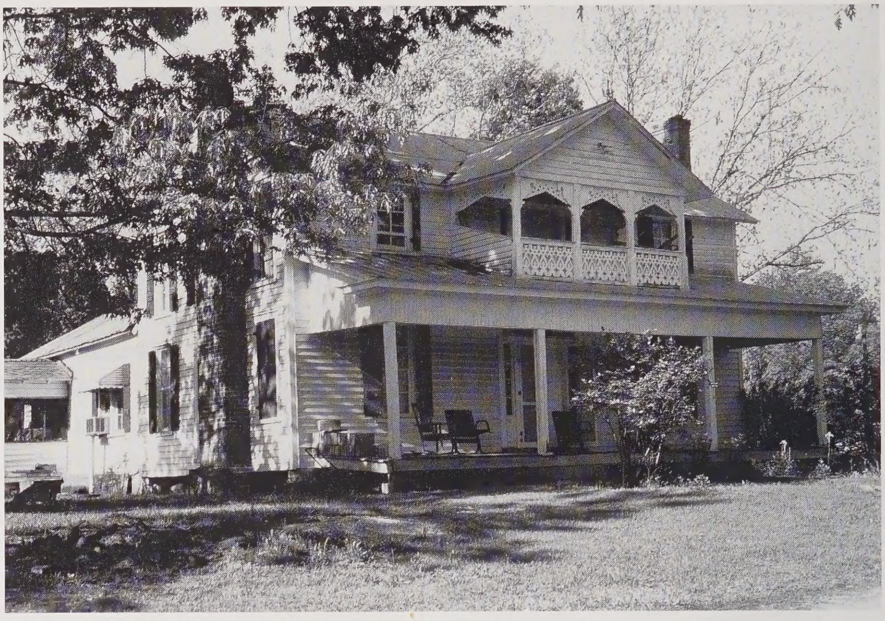
McGilvary House

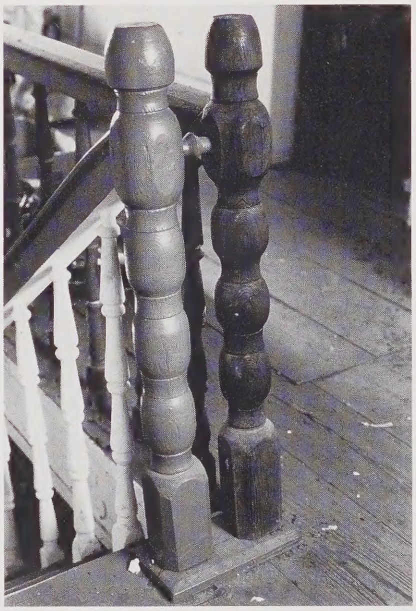
4212 Cox Mill Road (SR 1529)
Swann's Station vicinity
Ca. 1871

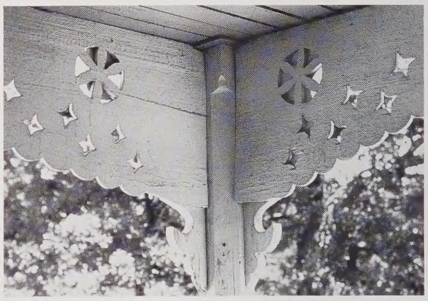
Farmer, merchant, and tanyard operator Atlas Gross (b. ca. 1846) probably had this two-story frame house built about the time of his marriage to "Pretty" Jackie Morris in 1871. The house was probably built by carpenter John M. Gaster, a neighbor and relative of Atlas Gross. The Gross House has a two-room-deep form that gives it a bulky appearance. The windows have four-over-four sashes and board shutters that replace earlier louvered shutters. Originally, the two tiers of the front porch covered only the center section of the front elevation. Sometime after 1900, the lower tier was removed, and the porch was extended across the entire front, but the original upper tier with its sawn balustrade was preserved. The upper porch also features elaborate sawn brackets—forming almost a frieze—pierced with starlike openings.

The architectural eccentricity of the Gross House exterior is also reflected on the interior, where the stair in the center passage features curious knobby newel posts and the mantels are formed from standard Victorian frieze profiles layered three or four on top of one another, creating a highly decorative effect. The house may once have featured smoked ceilings and other forms of decorative painting.

Owner: Marie G. Groce.
Sources: Van R. Groce; Marvin Gaster, Lee County historian; 1979 Historic Lee County calendar; *Sanford Express*, September 29, 1924.


Atlas and Jackie M. Gross House


Newels at top of stair


Porch detail

RAILROAD HOUSE

110 Charlotte Avenue
Sanford
1872

In addition to being Sanford's oldest downtown building, the Railroad House is notable for its historical associations and architectural character. The house was built in 1872 to serve as the residence of the Raleigh & Augusta Air Line Railroad's first depot agent in Sanford, W. T. Tucker, and his new bride, Inder Virginia Squire Tucker. The dwelling originally stood on the west corner of Charlotte and Hawkins avenues, where it housed Inder Tucker's Sanford Institute during the 1870s. Other individuals associated with the early history of the house included Line Bingham, who cooked for the Tuckers, and Sanford's second depot agent and his wife, Thompson E. and E. E. White. In 1916, the Seaboard Railroad (successor to the Raleigh & Augusta) sold the house to Gus Womble, and the property was used as a private residence over the following half century.

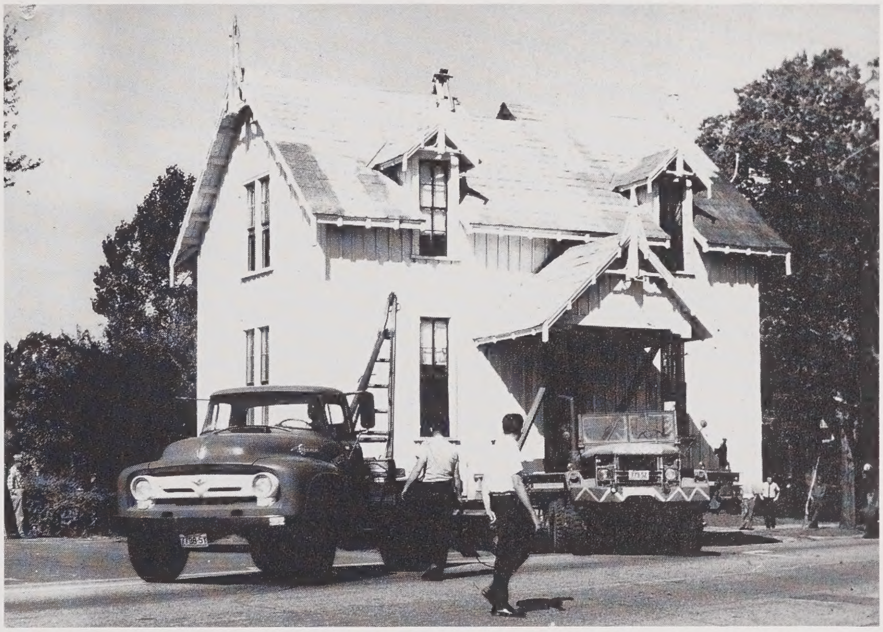
In 1962, the Railroad House was threatened with demolition for a service station expansion. The house was donated by owner Mary Alice Womble to a group headed by J. E. Walker and was moved across Charlotte Avenue to its present location. Since 1962 the headquarters and museum of the Railroad House Historical Association, Inc., the house served until recently as the home of the Sanford area Chamber of Commerce.

The Railroad House is a story-and-a-half frame dwelling with board-and-batten siding, a gabled front stoop and upper-story wall dormers, a rebuilt brick chimney with recessed panels in the cap, and a one-story ell. The house is a notable example of the Gothic Revival style, as expressed by its form, the verticality of its board-and-batten siding, and the spikelike finials on the porch, main roof, and dormer gables. The Gothic Revival was popular for railroad-related structures throughout the nation, and other examples of the style are associated with the R&A line, in particular the early 1870s Rufus H. Jones House at 135 West Chatham Street in Cary.

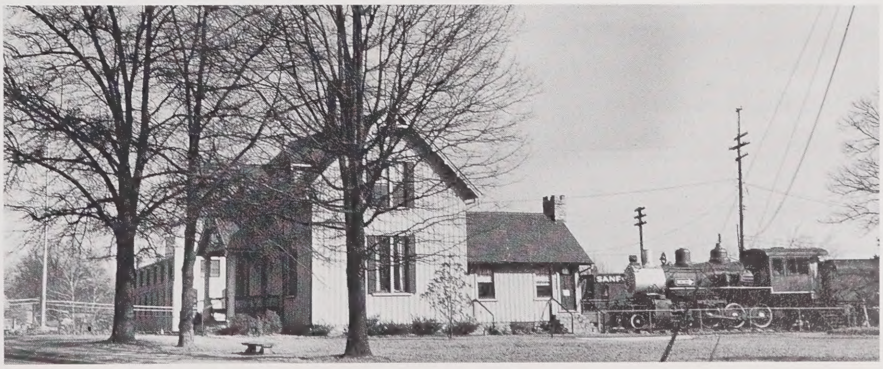
The front entry opens into a narrow transverse hall with a stair and doorways leading to the two downstairs rooms. The four mantels in the house are of standard Greek/Gothic Revival design, with pilasters and peaked frieze profiles. Typical of the rich, multihued color schemes of the era, the house exterior was originally painted in shades of olive green, with olive green, white, and pink shades used on the interior.

Owner: Railroad House Historical Association, Inc.

Sources: Hal T. Siler, Lee County historian; *Sanford History*; Honeycutt, "Railroad House"; Railroad House Collection; Lally, *Historic Architecture of Wake County*, 330; "Local Laconics," *Sanford Express*, September 19, 1895.



The Railroad House on the move, October 1962



The house at its present site (Photo by Hal Tysinger)

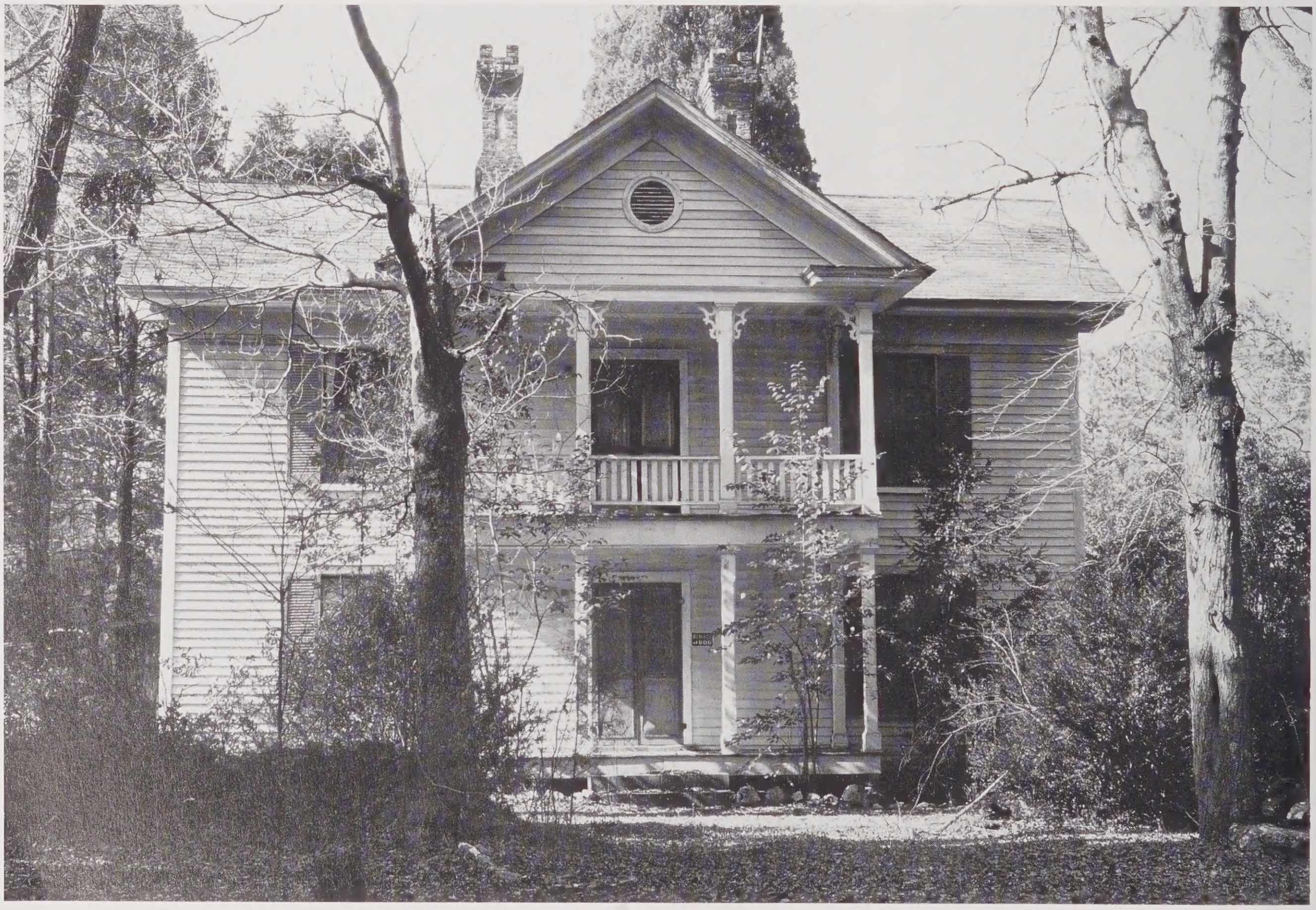
1701 Cool Springs Road (SR 1325)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1875

Prolific Sanford-area builder George W. Gilmore built this handsome two-story frame house, probably in the 1870s. His daughter, Dora Gilmore Groce, is said to have been born in the front section of the house in 1881. Notable features of the house include the interior brick chimneys, which have stuccoed recessed panels on the sides of the stacks and corbeled and castellated caps. The two-tier front porch is supported by chamfered posts with sawn brackets and has a circular louvered vent in the gable. A one-story ell dating to the early 1900s extends to the rear.

The property also comprises several interesting landscape features and farm buildings. Marcelle Wakefield, who owned the house in the 1930s, constructed low brownstone walls in the front yard, and brownstone rubble cairns formerly flanked the entrance to the cedar-lined drive that leads to the house from Cool Springs Road. (Marcelle Wakefield's brother-in-law, coal mine operator Oscar Wakefield, constructed similar brownstone walls at his house on Wakefield Road.) In the south yard is a gabled structure that houses the bell from the former Cool Springs School. Other buildings include a one-story, asbestos-sided frame house built in the mid-1950s by Marcelle Wakefield; a board-and-batten corncrib with hewn sills and log joists; and a board-and-batten frame barn. The barn may be contemporary with the house or earlier, although it has been considerably remodeled through the years.

Owners: Marcelle Wakefield and Michael Zianna.

Sources: Marcelle Wakefield Zianna; period business directories.



George W. Gilmore House

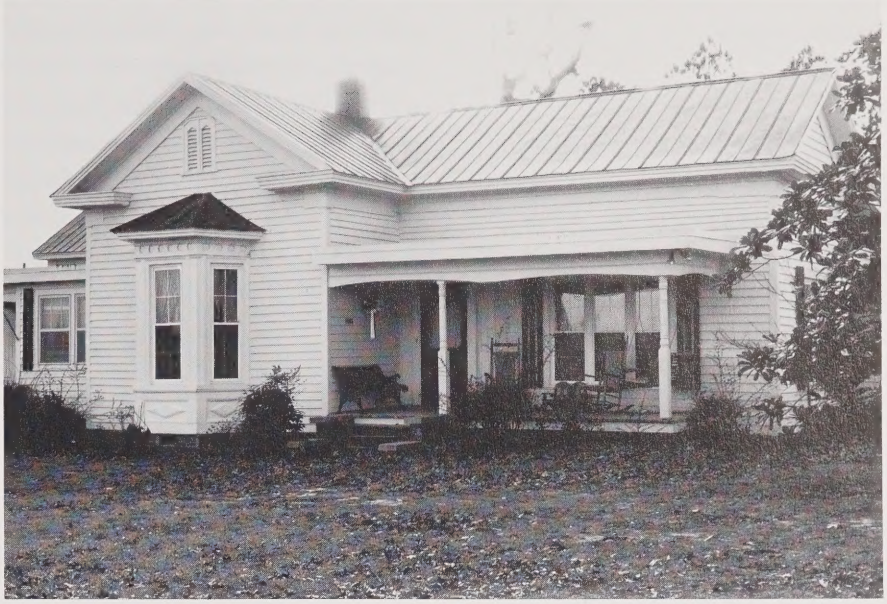
CROSS-WILSON FARM

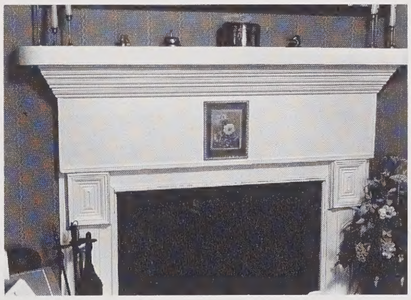
5007 Greenwood Road (SR 1144)
Lemon Springs
Ca. 1875

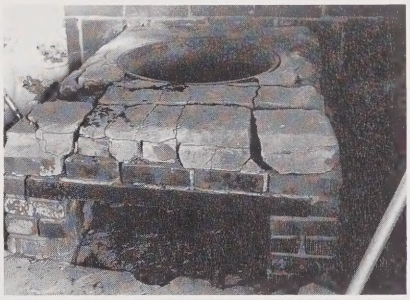
Tom Cross was an early owner of the original section of this one-story frame house, which is said to have contained the first Lemon Springs post office. Greek Revival features suggest a date of construction in the 1860s or the early 1870s, when the Raleigh & Augusta line was built through the vicinity. The Greek Revival detailing includes a front entry with a peaked lintel and flanking recessed panels; beaded rake boards and cornice; and an unusual mantel with a heavy bed molding under the shelf and molded pilasters capped by corner-block-like elements. Other late-nineteenth-century exterior features include a bay window with raised lozenge panels under the windows and a decorative frieze, and pairs of peaked louvered vents and cornice returns in the gables.

In 1927, the property was acquired by Ernest Wilson, a farmer who in the 1930s held the largest tobacco allotment in Lee County. His 600-acre farm was planted in corn and grain as well as tobacco and featured as many as a dozen tenant houses. Wilson built the large group of domestic and farm buildings that cluster near the house. These include a late-1930s frame and brick-tile pump house/washhouse with a brick and concrete hearth for boiling laundry, a two-story barn and stables, and a large corncrib/pack house dating to about 1940.

Owners: Charles R. and Virginia Lamm.
Sources: Charles R. Lamm; Patty Mae (Wilson) McGilvary; period business directories; U.S. census schedules.


Cross-Wilson House


Mantel in original section


Wash house stove

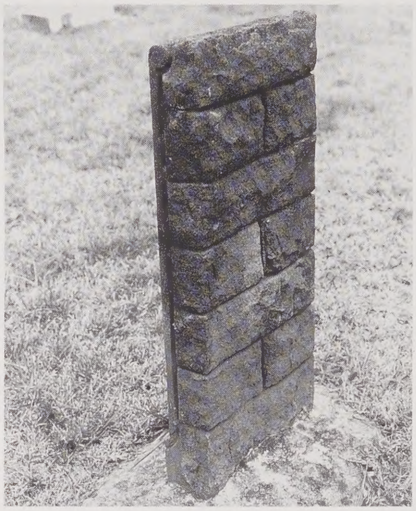
POPLAR SPRINGS METHODIST CHURCH

Poplar Springs Church Road (SR 1537)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1870

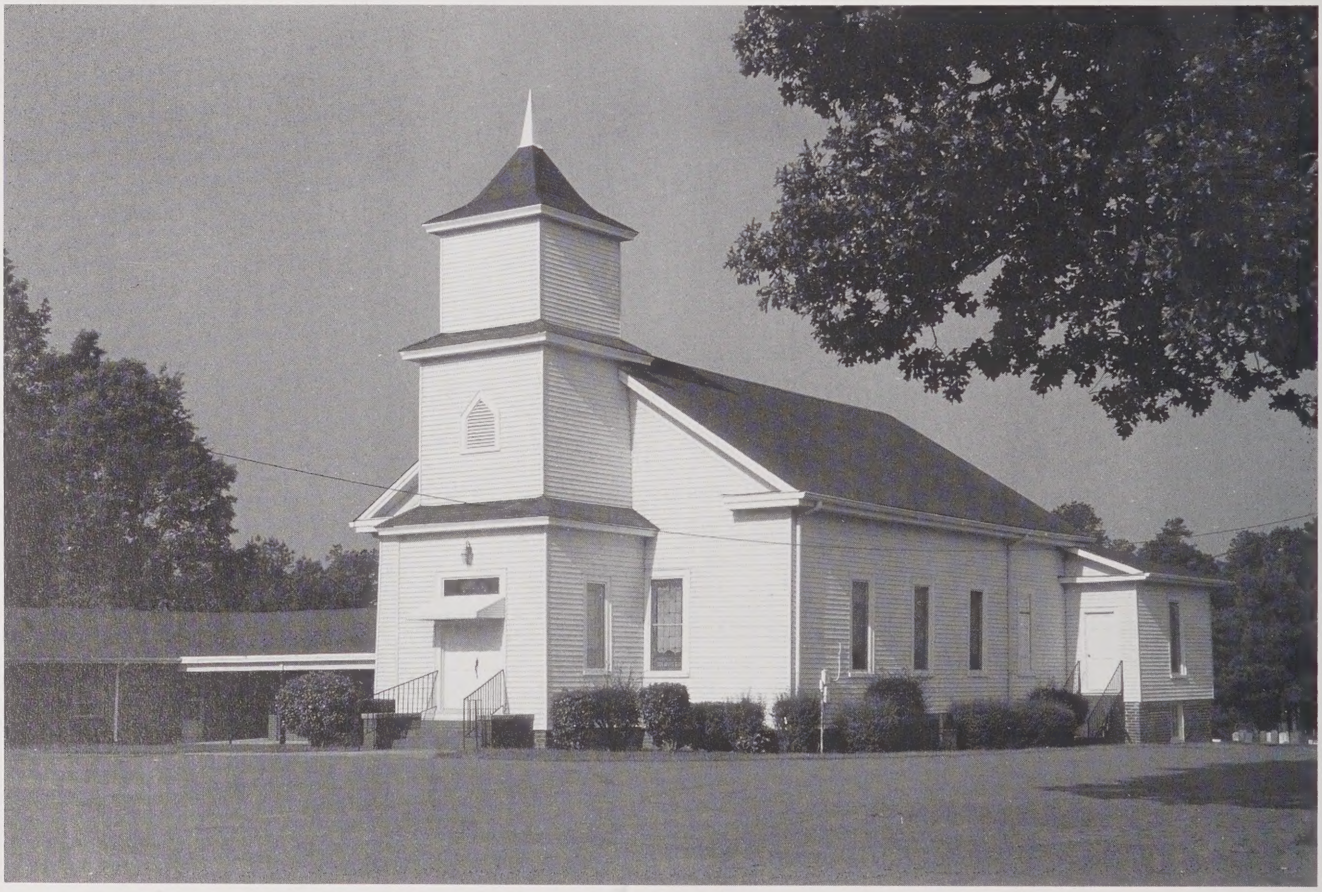
The Poplar Springs congregation, established in 1836, was officially organized by the 1840s. The congregation met first under a brush arbor, but in 1868 David and Nancy Oliver gave the congregation land, and the present frame building was built soon after. Originally, the church was oriented north and south; in 1925 the building was lifted off its foundations and reoriented east-west, probably so that it would face Poplar Springs Church Road. An entry tower and Sunday school rooms were added to the church at about the same time.

Poplar Springs Methodist Church is an aluminum-sided frame building with an entry tower on the front gable end. A one-story brick-veneered annex adjoins the church. The oldest section of the cemetery, its earliest marked grave dated 1856, is located behind the church, and a more recent and larger section lies between the church and the road.

Sources: Greg Presnal, pastor; Ernestine Griffin, church historian; *Sanford Express*, March 20, 1925.



Rusticated back of an 1890s brownstone headstone in the cemetery behind the church



Poplar Springs Methodist Church

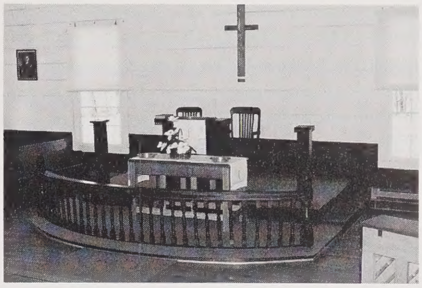
MEMPHIS METHODIST CHURCH

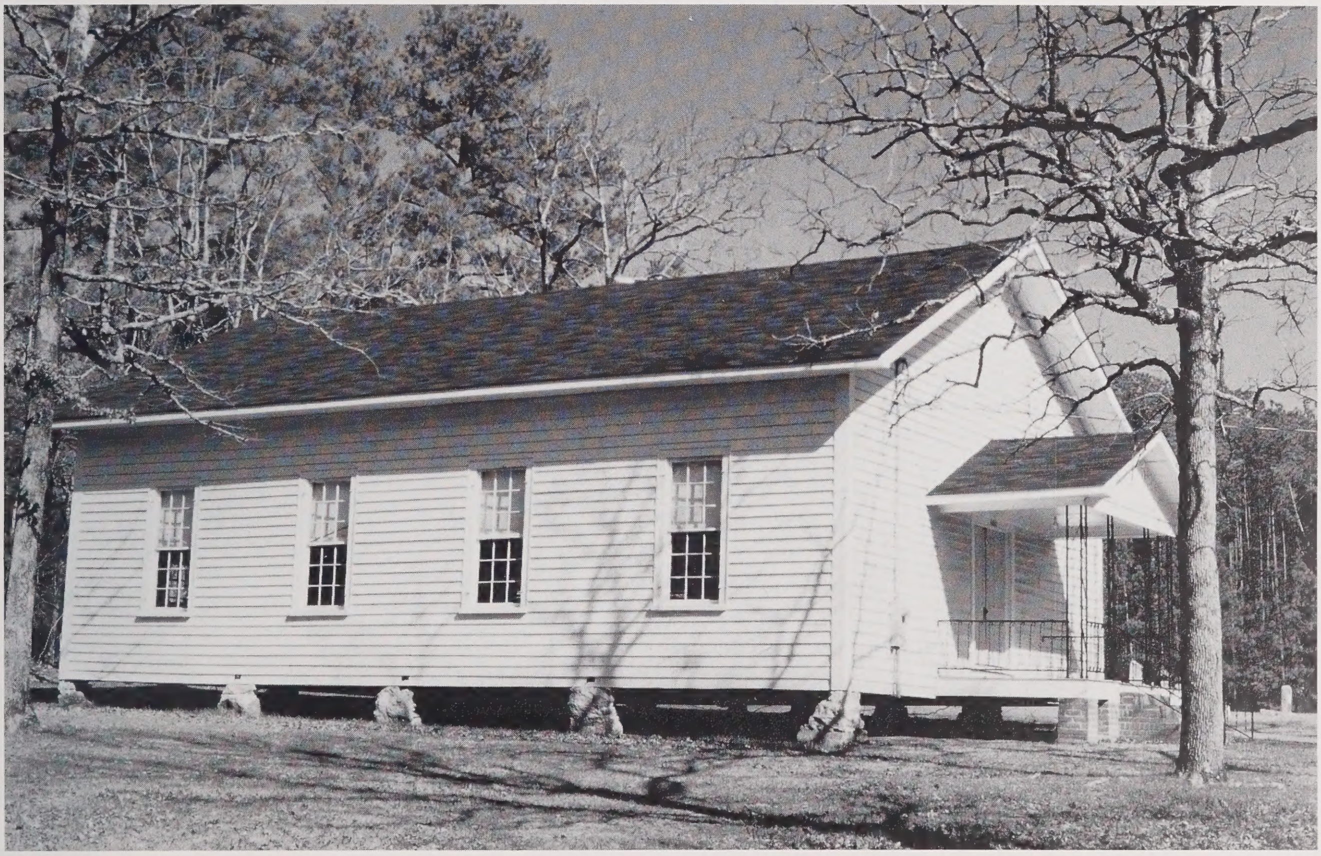
Poplar Springs Church Road (SR 1537)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1875

Memphis Methodist Church, organized in 1813, is the oldest Methodist congregation in Lee County. The congregation originally worshiped in a log chapel that stood near the present church. Memphis experienced a revival after the Civil War, led by ministers Isaac Avent and L. L. Smith. During this period the congregation moved to its present location, and the church building may have been erected in the 1870s. Local farmer Archibald Yarborough is said to have donated the land for the church, and he may also have served as its builder.

The one-story frame building is spartan in appearance. The front gable end originally had two entries; now there is a single central entry. The hewn sills of the side elevations run the full forty-six-foot length of the church. The interior, lighted by tall nine-over-nine-sash windows, has flush-board sheathing on the walls and ceilings, a beaded chair rail, a varnished wainscot, and a curving altar rail with turned newels and balusters. To the north of the church is a cemetery with several fieldstone markers; the marble headstone of Joseph Avent (d. 1862), carved by the George Lauder works in Fayetteville; and many marble and granite gravestones from later periods.

Sources: M. Hazel Rosser, former area resident; Champion, Memphis Methodist Church history; *Sanford Express*, March 20, 1925.


Altar (Photo by Edwin Patterson)

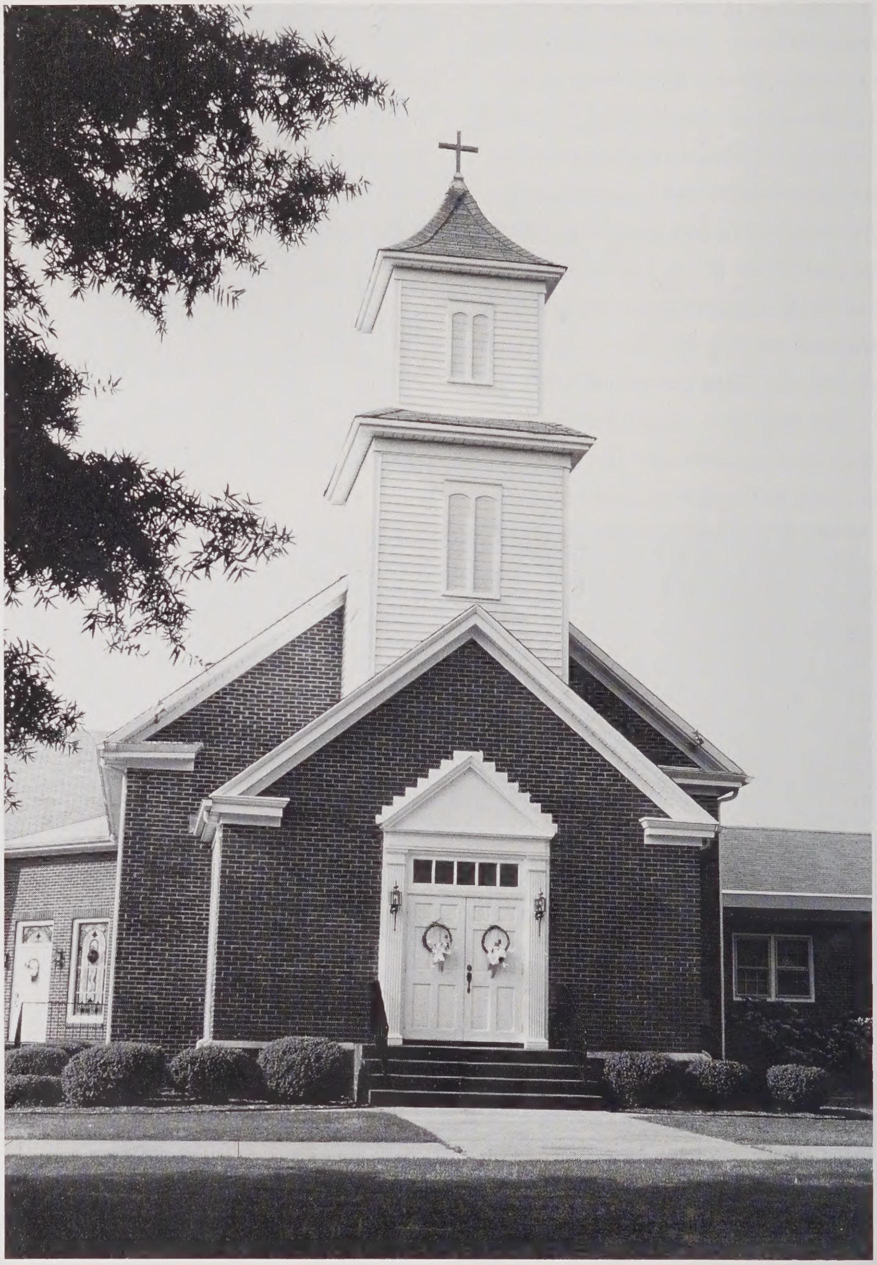

Memphis Methodist Church (Photo by Edwin Patterson)

Broadway Road (NC 42)
Sanford vicinity
1877

Shallow Well Church was organized in 1831. As legend has it, a well dug at the site struck water four feet below the surface, hence the name of the church. Services were conducted by preacher William T. Rollins and others under a brush arbor until a frame church was built during the Civil War. The frame core of the present building was built in 1877 under the supervision of church member and builder R. P. Salmon, and is believed to reuse hewn floor joists from the Civil War–era church. In 1916, a portico with a two-tier bell tower was added to the front; when the church was bricked and remodeled in 1948, this porch was enclosed as a vestibule.

The church has stained glass windows, a Colonial Revival pedimented front entry dating to 1948, a rear classroom wing, and a modernistic two-story education wing designed by architect E. J. Austin of Southern Pines and built in 1956. To the east of the church stand a 1962 parsonage, a 1978 fellowship hall, and a building known as the Boy Scout Hut. A large cemetery surrounds the church; its oldest marked grave is that of Maggie Oliver of Sanford (d. 1881). The grave of Neal M. McFarland (d. 1890) is marked by a small brownstone headstone with a back surface carved into rough blocks. (Similar headstones appear in the Cumnock and Poplar Springs Church cemeteries.) The east end of the cemetery on the north side of NC 42 is known as "the potter's field"; the unmarked graves in it are those of indigent people who could not afford to buy plots in the cemetery proper.

Sources: Dudley O'Connell, church historian; Robert Thomas, Broadway-area historian; "Shallow Well United Church of Christ"; *Sanford Express*, March 20, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936.



Shallow Well Christian Church

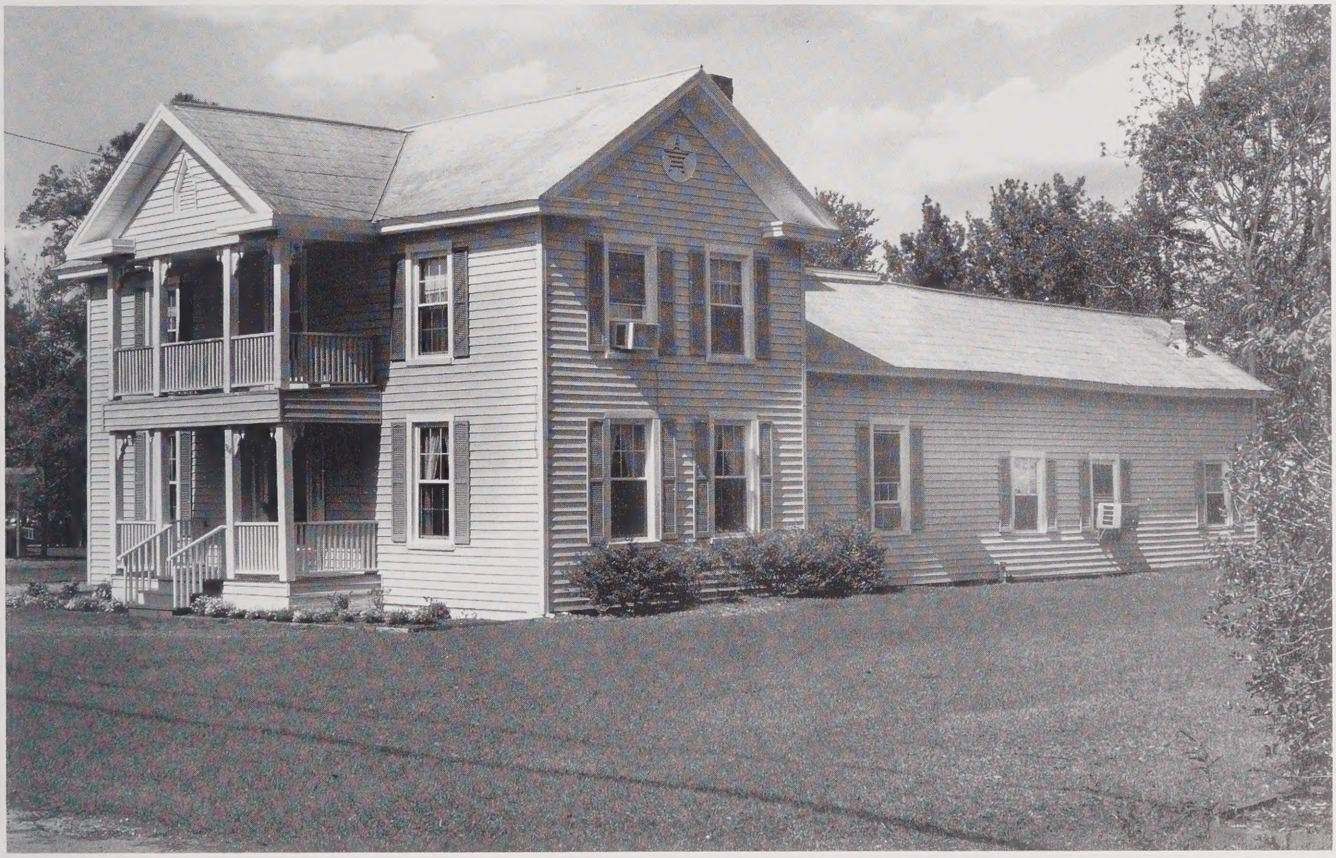
304 South Main Street
Broadway
1877

Malcolm McFarland Watson (1836–1908) and his wife Elizabeth Lassiter Watson (1844–1915) are believed to have had the original part of this two-story frame house built in 1877. Watson, a native of the Jonesboro area, moved to Texas after serving in the Confederate army, then returned to Lee County and opened a store in Broadway in 1883. The Broadway post office was located in his store, and Watson operated a turpentine distillery in conjunction with his retail trade. Watson served as a magistrate for the Cape Fear district of Moore County from the 1880s until just before his death. Malcolm and Elizabeth's son, Dr. Leon Watson, owned the house in the 1910s.

The Watson House is a two-story frame dwelling with aluminum siding and a modern two-tier front porch supported by square wood posts with sawn brackets. The present porch replaces a Craftsman porch with colossal brick columns that was added to the house in 1919. There are decorative vents in the gables of the porch and the house roof; a parged brick chimney rises on the north gable end; and a long one-story ell extends to the rear. This ell may contain the earliest section of the house.

Owner: Gladys S. Hollis.

Sources: Stevens, "History of Broadway"; Woman's Club, *Broadway*; *Sanford Herald*, July 24, 1933, and August 18, 1962; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; 1979 Historic Lee County calendar; period business directories.



Malcolm M. and Elizabeth L. Watson House

202 West Main Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1880

This two-story frame house, best known as the residence of a later owner, politician Aaron Ashley Flowers Seawell, Jr. (1864–1950), was built for railroad official Frank Pierce in the early 1880s and stood across Main Street from the Barnes Hotel. Pierce and his second wife are credited with planting Jonesboro's first rose garden here, in soil from eastern North Carolina that was brought in on railroad flat cars. Jonesboro attorney A. A. F. Seawell, Jr., who had been instrumental in creating Lee County during his term in the state senate, acquired the house in the 1920s. After he and his wife Bertha Smith Seawell sold the property to attorney Hosea M. Jackson in 1930, Seawell went on to become a state attorney general and state Supreme Court justice. H. M. Jackson represented Lee County in the state's House of Representatives in 1929.

The Pierce-Seawell House displays a number of late-nineteenth-century details, such as diamond-shaped vents in the gables, six-over-six-sash windows, and heavy molded window heads and corner board caps. The front entry has a fanlight and pedimented stoop that were added by the Jacksons. To the rear extends a remodeled one-story ell with side wings and an arcaded porch. The interior retains a number of original features, such as a Victorian front parlor mantel with a decorative frieze profile, chamfered pilasters, and heavy moldings under the shelf and capping the pilasters; and a center passage featuring a beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot and a stair with turned newels and balusters. Other rooms in the house have Colonial Revival detailing dating to the Jacksons' ownership.

Behind the house stands a frame carriage house that was probably built in the late 1800s and was later made into a law office for Hosea M. Jackson and his son, George M. Jackson. In the early 1940s, when housing was in short supply at Fort Bragg (located south of Lee County), Jackson created a small dwelling from a meat house and dairy that stood on the property. The dwelling was occupied by Dr. William M. Sloop, a dentist and administrator at Fort Bragg, and it stands today next to the carriage house/law office. The grounds feature winding walkways, patios, a rustic pergola, and a brick lattice wall that borders the sidewalk along West Main Street.

Owners: Mrs. Hosea M. Jackson's heirs.

Sources: Mrs. Hosea M. Jackson; Hosea M. Jackson, undated notes; Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historian; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*; *Sanford Herald*, August 29, 1932, July 17, 1933, and May 15, 1953; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; historical marker; U.S. census schedules.

Pierce-Seawell House

Pierce-Seawell House (drawn by Elizabeth Reeves Lyon)

KENNETH H. AND MARGARET WORTHY HOUSE (HICKORY HOUSE)

2400 Tramway Road (NC 78)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1880

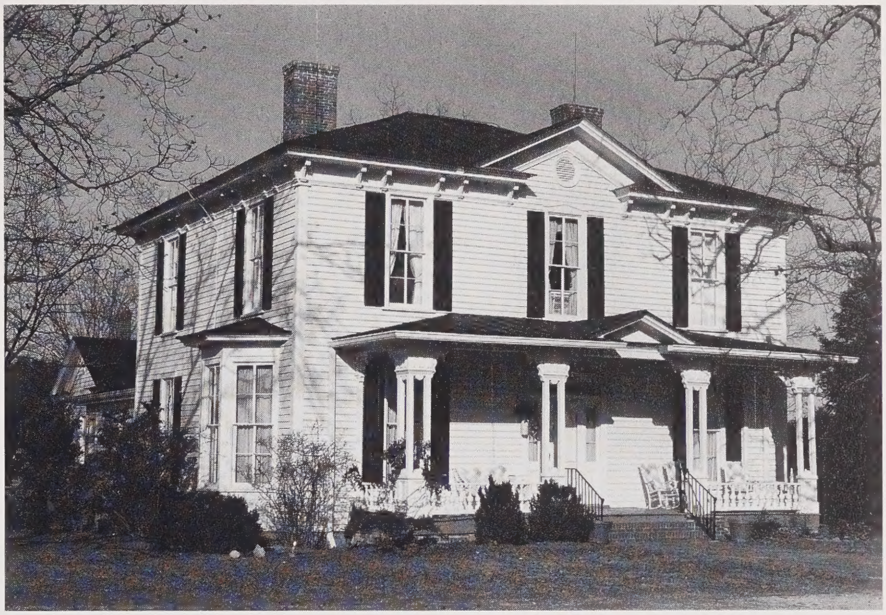
Kenneth H. (1820–1901) and Margaret Worthy are believed to have had this stylish Victorian house built in the mid-1880s, although the possibility exists that the house was already standing by 1877. The house may have been built with lumber from the K. H. Worthy & Son sawmill, which was in operation during the period. In more recent years the Hickory House restaurant occupied the house.

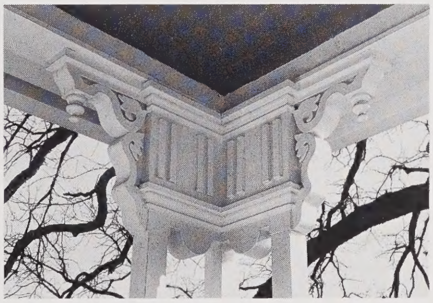
The two-story frame Worthy House features a two-room-deep plan under a hip roof. A bracketed Italianate cornice is interrupted on the front by a small gable with a round louvered vent. The one-story front porch has ornate supports comprising slender posts with paneled pedestals and brackets incorporating sawn and turned millwork. Between the supports are balustrades with rotund balusters. On the two side elevations are bay windows with pink-tinted panes, and an early one-story ell extends to the rear.

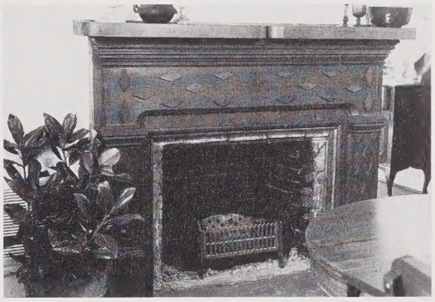
Despite a fire in recent years, the interior of the Worthy House retains most of its original detailing. The mantels are in a variety of Victorian forms, with robust moldings and lozenge-shaped appliqué ornament. The center-passage stair has a turned and faceted newel post that is not original to the house but is in keeping with its character. Scratched into the parging of the chimney in the rear wing is the date "1884." Also on the property are a frame barn, several frame tobacco barns, and a modern one-story frame rental house assembled from old farm buildings.

Owner: Ruby C. McSwain.

Sources: Ruby C. McSwain; Charles T. Worthy; James Vann Comer, Lee County historian; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; business directories.


Kenneth H. and Margaret Worthy House


Front porch detail


A first-story mantel

LEMON SPRINGS RESORT (JOHN W., SR., AND KATE S. SCOTT HOUSE)

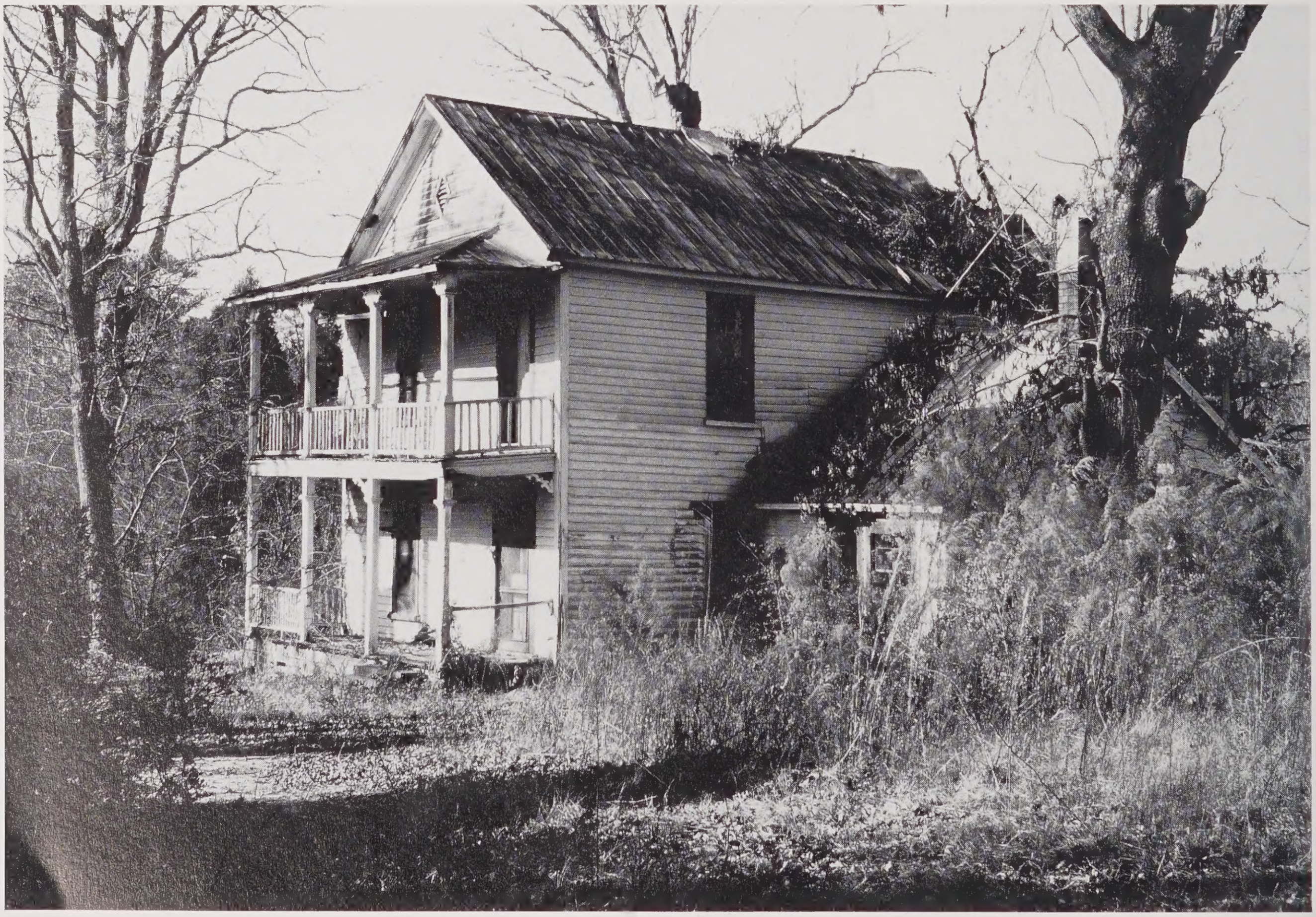
White Hill Road (US 15-501)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1880

A carriage drive lined with a tangled growth of cedars, crape myrtles, and roses leads up to the abandoned hotel at Lemon Springs, one of Lee County's most evocative historic locales. The first hotel at the natural mineral spring mysteriously burned in 1878 just after it opened; the present two-story frame building was built shortly afterward as a residence for John Winslow, Sr., and Kate S. McLean Scott. The Scott property was apparently used as a resort, although it was not advertised as such in period business directories. Guests arrived by railroad, disembarking at the village of Lemon Springs several miles to the east. According to tradition, ailing visitors lodged in cottages on the property and drank the spring water for its alleged curative properties. Picnickers, campers, and courting couples came to enjoy the cool shade of the wooded glade surrounding the spring or to bathe in a small lake that was formed by damming the spring branch.

The Scott House has a gable-front form with a gracious two-story veranda supported by chamfered posts with sawn brackets. The stair in the side passage was removed in the 1930s by a resident who believed she heard a ghost walking on it, and a one-story wing on the east elevation was added about 1940. (This addition replaces an earlier one-story wing.) Nearby are a circular brownstone spring curb and a dance hall (later converted into a dwelling) built over the spring branch.

Owner: Herman Hilton Bennett.

Sources: Russell J. Denkins and Cleta Jones, longtime area residents; Oroon D. Palmer, Jr., and Marvin Gaster, Lee County historians; 1981 Historic Lee County calendar; *Sanford Express*, June 30, 1905; *Sanford Herald*, April 10, 1933.



The hotel and residence at the Lemon Springs resort

BUFFALO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

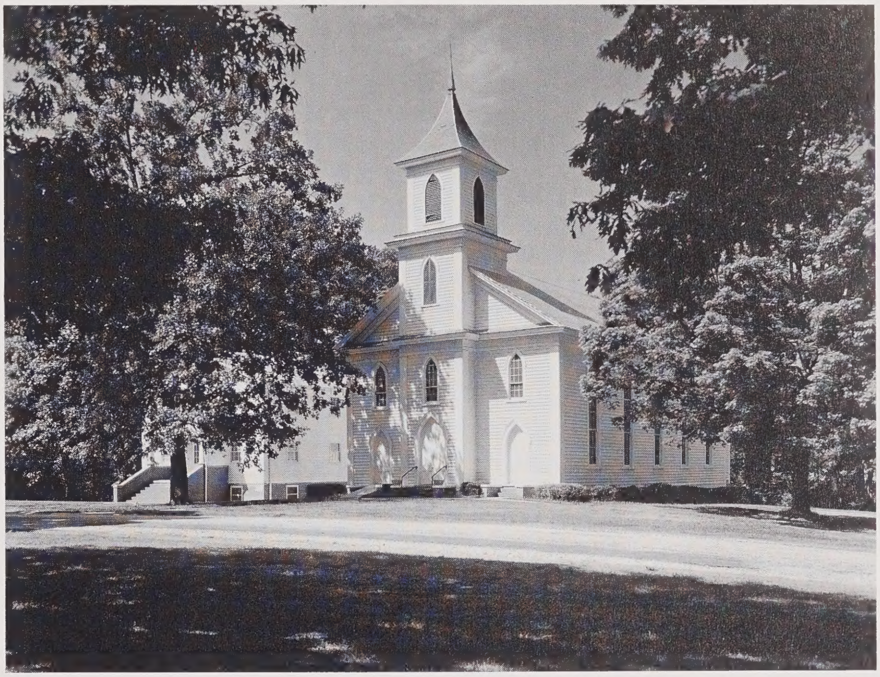
1333 Carthage Street
Sanford
Ca. 1880

"Situated far back in a spacious, undulating grove of oaks . . . and wrapped in the shadows of the years, is the old church." So a newspaper reporter described Buffalo Presbyterian Church in 1907. Actually, the present church building was less than thirty years old then, although the congregation was and is the oldest in Lee County. Buffalo Church was the northernmost of the Presbyterian congregations established by the Cape Fear Highland Scots in the 1700s. The congregation dates its establishment to 1797, when the Rev. William D. Paisley began to preach on a regular basis in a log chapel that stood near the site of the present church. The log chapel was replaced by a frame building in 1817, which in turn was replaced by another frame building in 1843. The present frame church dates to about 1880 and was built by John Masemore with lumber milled by John B. Matthews, Sr.

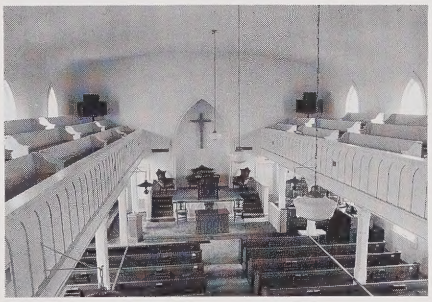
Buffalo Church has a standard nave plan with a three-tier entry tower. At the base of the tower and flanking it on both sides are lancet-arched entries, and the louvered vents in the tower and the tall side windows are also lancet-arched. The front entries open into a vestibule with winder stairs rising to a gallery. From the vestibule, doors lead into the vaulted sanctuary. The Gothic Revival style of the exterior is continued in the sanctuary, with the gallery railing, dais, and pulpit decorated by recessed lancet panels. The gallery is supported by chamfered posts with molded caps. Off the south side of the church extends an education and office wing constructed in 1957.

At first, church members preferred family burial plots located on the farms of the area. Consequently, the earliest marked graves in the Buffalo Church cemetery date to the 1850s (except for several gravestones moved to the site from other cemeteries). The cemetery has several sophisticated brownstone monuments associated with the French stonecutters who came to Sanford in the 1890s. In 1900, several black churches in Sanford purchased a half-acre parcel at Buffalo for use as a graveyard. This cemetery, located behind the church, contains many marked and unmarked graves.

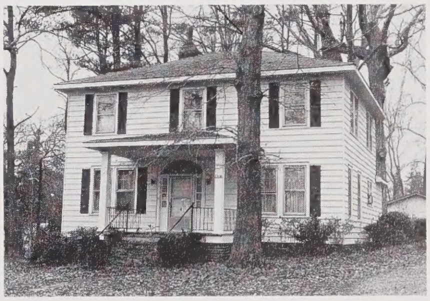
Sources: Edna Nunnery and Malcolm Jackson, church historians; Lacy, "Historical Address"; Moore County Deed Book 23, p. 123; *Sanford Express*, March 22, 1907; *Sanford Herald*, January 30, 1933, July 10, 1957, July 20, 1960, and November 25, 1969.



Buffalo Presbyterian Church (Photo by Darrell Byerly, ca. 1968)



Sanctuary



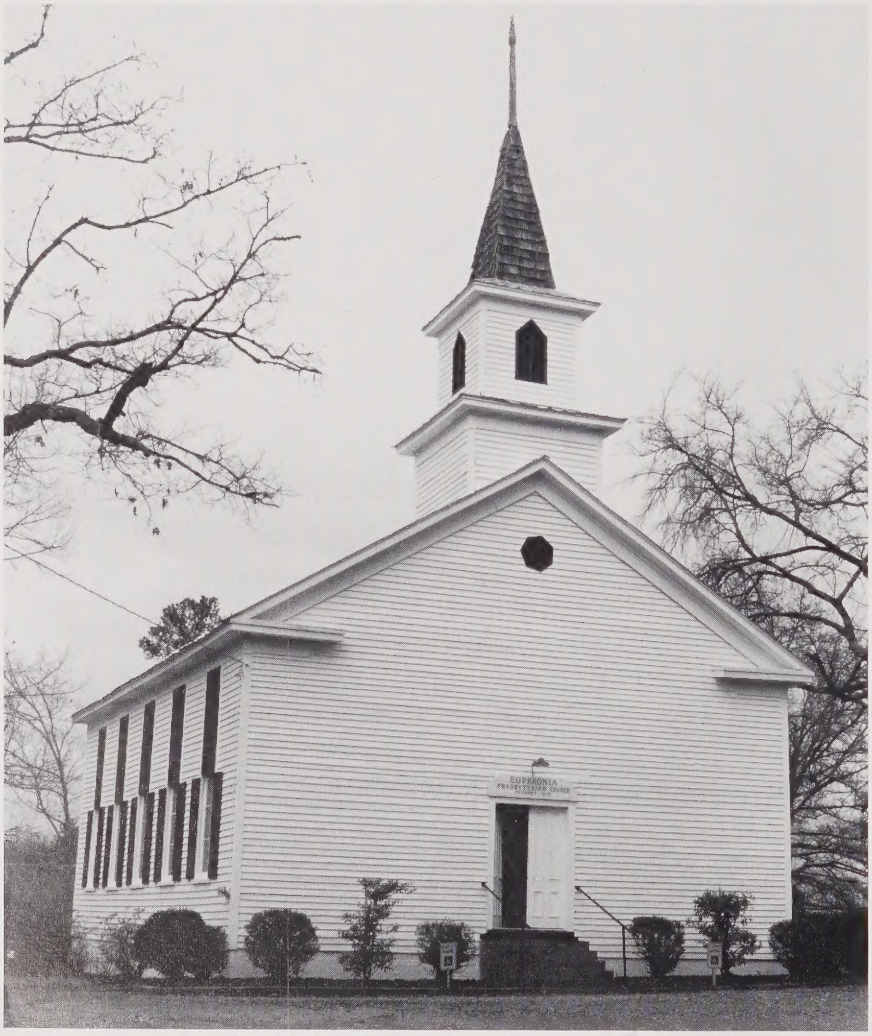
Manse, located across from the church at 1334 Carthage Street

3800 Steel Bridge Road (SR 1318)
Carbonton vicinity
1885–86

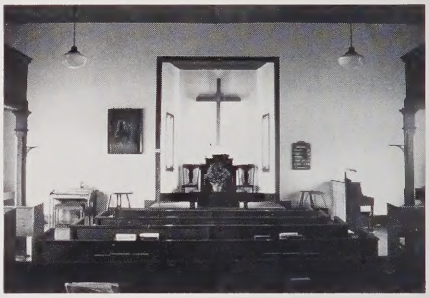
"Euphronia" is derived from the Greek *euphron*, meaning "of good mind" or "harmony of mind and body." The name was originally applied to the Euphronian Academy, established in 1811 by the Rev. Murdock (or Murdoch) McMillan on the Ridge Road near Carbonton. The Euphronia congregation was in existence by 1814, and it met in the academy building until the 1850s, when a church was built at this now-isolated hilltop above Little Governor's Creek and the Deep River. Construction of the present building was begun in January 1885 by church member and contractor Daniel C. Campbell and completed in 1886.

Euphronia Church is a simple but elegant building that expresses well the harmony implicit in its name. The large frame building has a nave form capped by a belfry with a wooden finial spike and peaked vents. Tall six-over-six-sash windows extend down the side elevations, and a polygonal apse projects to the rear. The front entry opens into a transverse passage with enclosed stairs leading to a gallery and two doorways leading into the sanctuary. The sanctuary features plaster walls, a flush-board ceiling, and the gallery, which is supported by chamfered posts with molded caps and neckings. A paneled and chamfered lectern and other old furnishings stand on the dais. Near the church are a 1956 cinder-block fellowship hall and a cemetery; the oldest marked grave is that of George Willcox (d. 1857).

Sources: Pezzoni, "Euphronia Presbyterian Church"; George W. Willcox and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Griffin, "Euphronia Church"; *Moore Gazette*, January 29, 1885; *Central Express*, September 22, 1887, and March 23, 1889.



Euphronia Presbyterian Church



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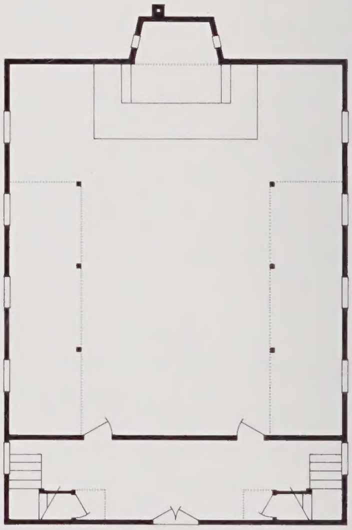


Plan (Measured by Mike Tillman and the author; drawn by the author)

JESSE L. GODFREY HOUSE

2525 Watson Avenue
Jonesboro
1886

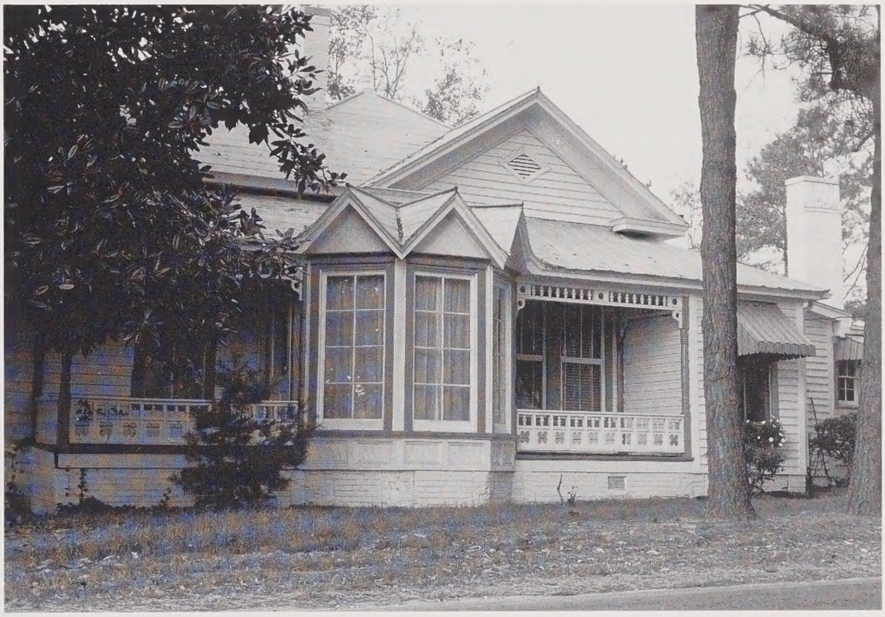
The Godfrey House is Jonesboro's best-preserved Victorian residence. Jesse L. Godfrey, who was born about 1853, boarded with merchant J. R. Watson in 1880, and in 1881 the two formed Watson & Godfrey, a general mercantile business that operated out of a building on Watson Avenue. Godfrey is said to have had this one-story frame house built in 1886, although the deed for the property was not recorded until 1889. A bachelor when he built his home, Godfrey lodged at his store and rented the house to a Mr. Russell, a Jonesboro depot agent. Godfrey moved into the house upon his marriage to Lelia Malloy, who operated a millinery shop in the Watson & Godfrey store. In 1907, Godfrey was president of the Bank of Jonesboro, and when Lee County was formed the same year, he served as one of the first county commissioners.

The Godfrey House is a center-passage-plan dwelling with a projecting front parlor and a rear kitchen and dining room wing. The house has a low-pitched hip-and-gable roof with diamond-shaped gable vents and shingle-pattern pressed metal roofing. The prominent exterior feature is the porch on the southeast elevation, which has two halves separated by a fanciful "sun parlor" or conservatory used to shelter potted plants during the winter. The porch has turned posts, a spindle frieze, and a balustrade incorporating quatrefoil cut-outs. Several of the original exterior doors and two-over-two-sash windows have decorative surrounds derived from Victorian pattern books.

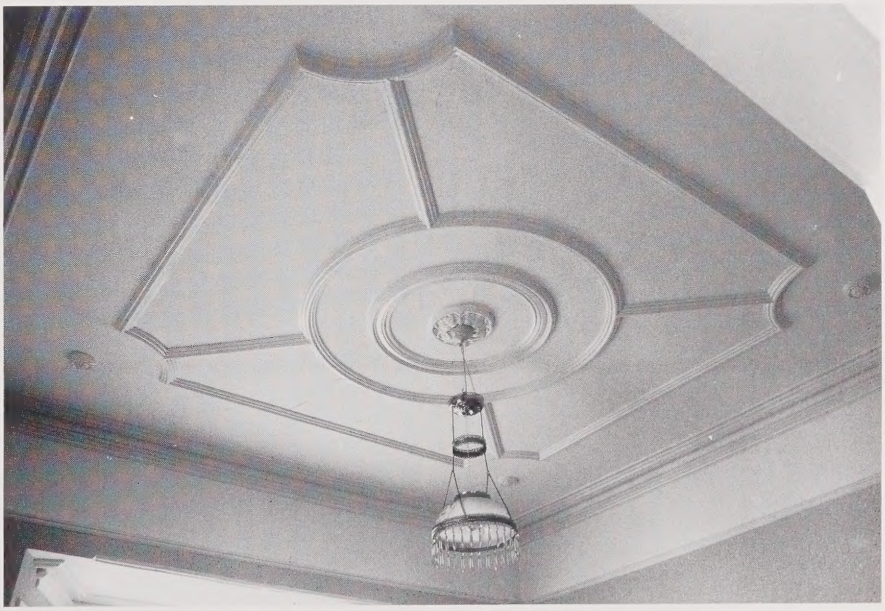
The interior of the house is as flamboyant as the exterior. The front parlor features a molded plaster ceiling with a heavy cornice, medallions, and a pendant oil lamp. The mantels in the house combine a range of decorative treatments, including shaped frieze profiles, keystone-like motifs, chamfering, turnings, and heavy moldings. In the center passage are shelves that contain Godfrey's circulating library—one of Lee County's first public libraries, containing approximately two hundred romances, Westerns, and other novels.

Owner: Thomas C. Black, Jr.

Sources: Thomas C. Black; Moore County Deed Book 3, p. 360; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; business directories; U.S. census schedules.



Jesse L. Godfrey House



Ceiling in front parlor

PINE KNOT FARM

3810 Lemon Springs Road (SR 1001)
Lemon Springs vicinity
1888

Shortly after William Isaac and Susannah Hunt Brooks established their farm in 1888, a guest looked the property over and exclaimed that there was "just a bunch of knotty pines out here," hence the farm's name. William and Susannah married in 1884 and at first lived in Jonesboro; they built the front rooms of their one-story house in 1888 and by 1909 had enlarged it into the present sprawling farmhouse.

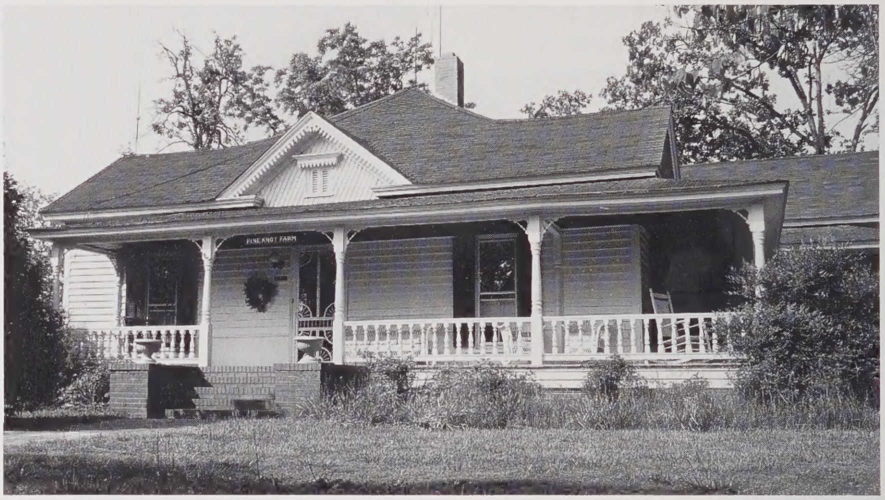
William I. Brooks was a man of many talents. About 1900, he operated a brickyard and a cotton gin on his farm and also owned a steam-powered shingle mill in Salemburg. He served as a deputy sheriff of Moore County and as a salesman for the Albemarle Monument Company, a gravestone manufacturer. In 1911, the *Sanford Express* hailed Brooks as "one of Lee County's most progressive and successful farmers" and described the domestic water plant recently installed on the farm and plans for a sewer system and an electric light plant. However, instead of electric lights, the Brooks family installed one of the first carbide light plants in the area. In later years, motorists passing through Lee County on their way to and from Florida camped at the farm.

Pine Knot Farm reflects the exuberance and resourcefulness of its original owners. The farmhouse is sheltered under a spreading hip-and-gable roof with extensive front and back porches supported by turned posts with sawn brackets. The gables of the original front section of the house, as well as a small front gable, are ornamented with sawn bargeboards, sawtooth wood-shingle sheathing, and rectangular louvered vents with delicate sawn hoods. Inside, the house features decorative beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing and a parlor mantel with robust sawn and turned work and diagonal beaded tongue-and-groove panels in the overmantel.

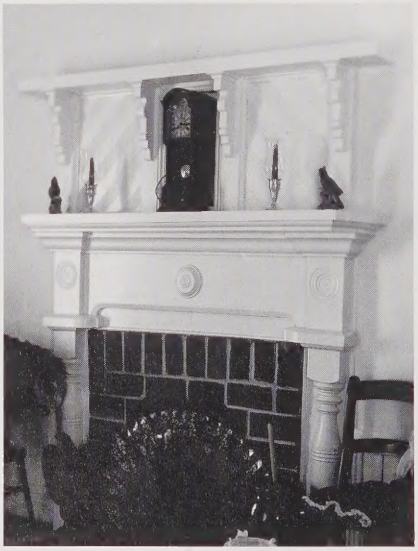
Surrounding the farmhouse is one of Lee County's most complete historic outbuilding complexes, including a brick "milk house" (or dairy) for food storage, a carbide house, a meat house, a loom house where Susannah Brooks made wool coverlets, a well shelter, a latticed laundry shed, and a brick flower pit for keeping potted plants over the winter. A livestock barn, chicken houses, tobacco barns, and a one-story frame tenant house complete the group.

Owners: David S. and Anna K. Overton.

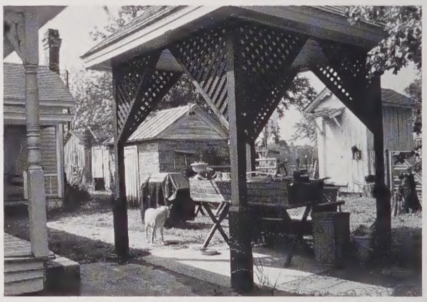
Sources: David Overton and Marguerite Campbell; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; *Sanford Express*, August 25, 1911; *Sanford Herald*, June 1947 Merger Edition; Moore County Deed Book 10, p. 443; business directories.



Pine Knot Farm farmhouse



Front parlor mantel

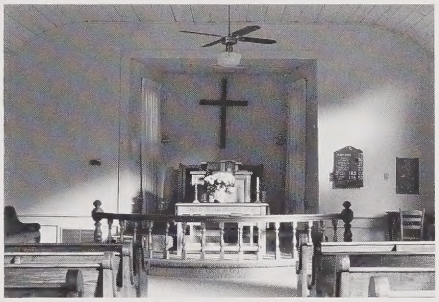


View of backyard showing (from left to right) ell and back porch of house, loom house, meat house, milk house, well shelter, and carbide house

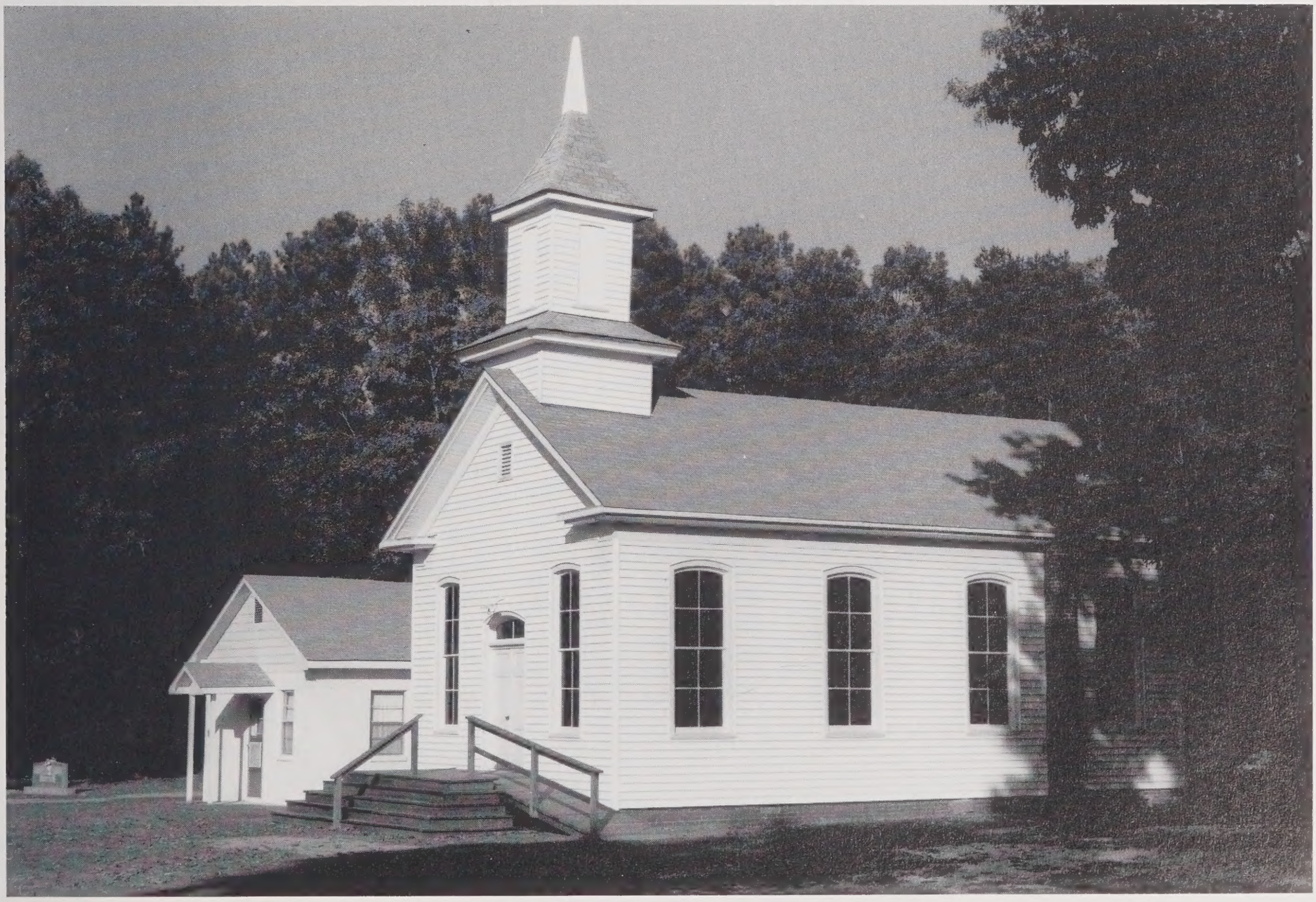
North Plank Road (SR 1007)
Carbonton vicinity
1882

Oroon D. Palmer, Sr., owner of the nearby Palmer Farm, and his cousin Hanby Palmer had this one-story frame church built in 1882. The construction of the church apparently coincided with the formation of the Bethlehem congregation. The aluminum-sided building has a traditional nave form and gable-end entry, and a small steeple with a pyramidal roof rises from the front gable. The tall four-over-four-sash windows on the side elevations have segmental-arched heads and are glazed with textured amber-colored glass (not original). To the rear projects a small polygonal apse, and on the north elevation extends a one-story cinder-block addition. The church interior features a vaulted flush-board ceiling and a curved altar rail with turned balusters and terminal posts. The small adjoining cemetery has a few nineteenth-century wooden, brownstone, and marble markers interspersed among twentieth-century granite monuments.

Source: Oroon D. Palmer, Jr., Lee County historian.



Sanctuary



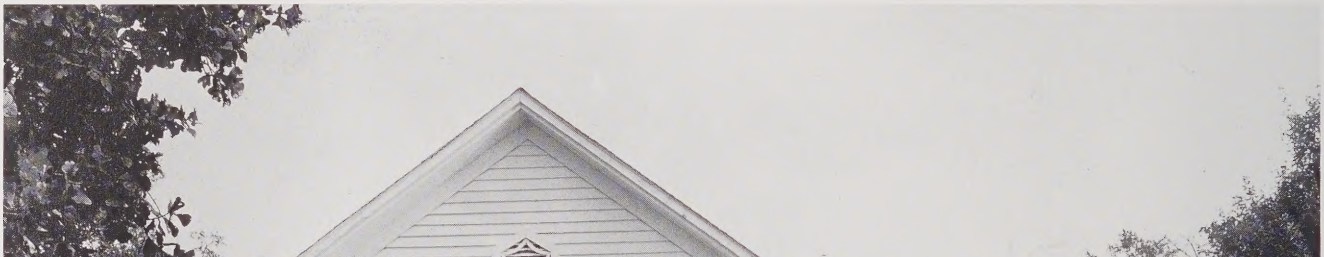
Bethlehem Methodist Church

Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
1885

Juniper Springs Baptist Church was organized in 1812, making it the oldest Baptist congregation in Lee County. The church may originally have been known as Muddy Springs, and the first church building is believed to have stood about two miles to the east. A church was constructed at the present site in 1885. This frame, nave-form building has a decorative gable vent and tall nine-over-nine-sash windows, and the interior features a pressed metal ceiling and plaster-and-lath walls above a plain wainscot. In front of the 1885 church is the present church building, a modern, brick-veneered, Colonial Revival edifice with a fellowship hall and a nearby picnic shelter. The graveyard is located on both sides of Buckhorn Road; its earliest marked graves date to around 1900. To the south of the two churches stands a grove of Atlantic white cedar, far inland from its typical coastal habitat.

Sources: Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; Women's Club, *Broadway.*

Juniper Springs Baptist Church



Historic view of church (Courtesy of the *Sanford Herald*)

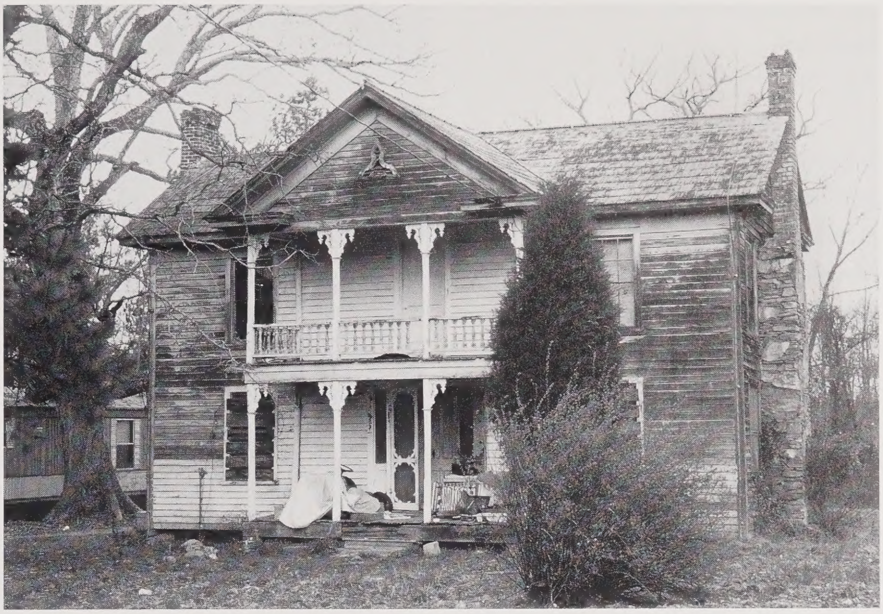
NATHAN SMITH HOUSE AND STORE

Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1880

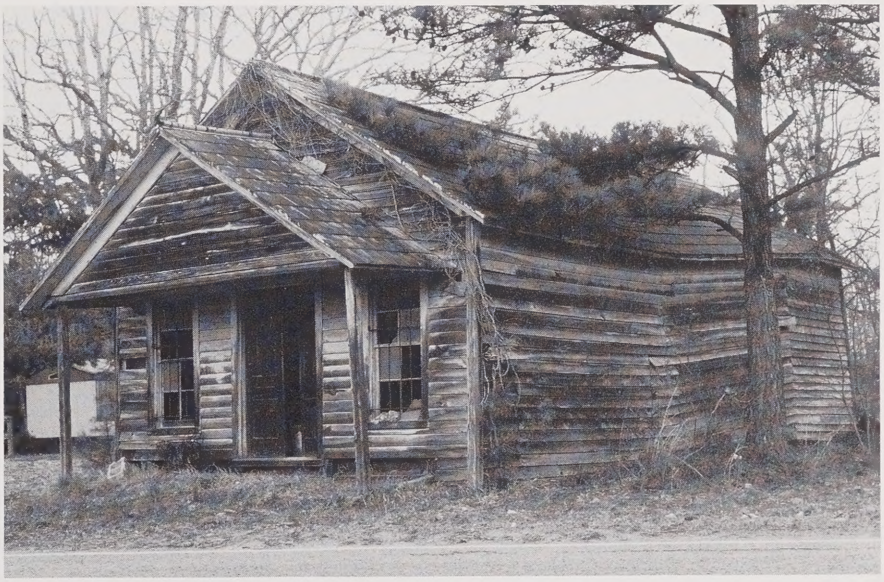
The Nathan Smith House and its adjoining store form a well-preserved ensemble that is increasingly rare in Lee County. The two-story frame house is dominated by a centered two-tier front porch with chamfered posts, sawn brackets, turned balusters, and a three-pointed vent in the gable. Other features include stone gable-end chimneys with parging and white scoring to simulate ashlar masonry; shingle-pattern pressed metal roofing; and a semidetached one-story frame kitchen and dining room wing with a side porch and a stone chimney.

The one-story frame store, operated by Smith from about 1880 into the 1910s, stands directly on Buckhorn Road and has a standard gable-entry form, pressed shingle-pattern metal roofing, a double-leaf front door, and barred four-over-four-sash windows. The store interior retains its original finishes and furnishings, including a flush-board ceiling, painted blue; shelves running down the side walls; and a counter with Gothic Revival lancet-arched end supports.

Owners: Lloyd A. and Cindy Smith.
Sources: Mrs. Ulysses G. Burns, longtime area resident; Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; Lillian and Robert Thomas, Broadway-area historians; business directories.



Nathan Smith House



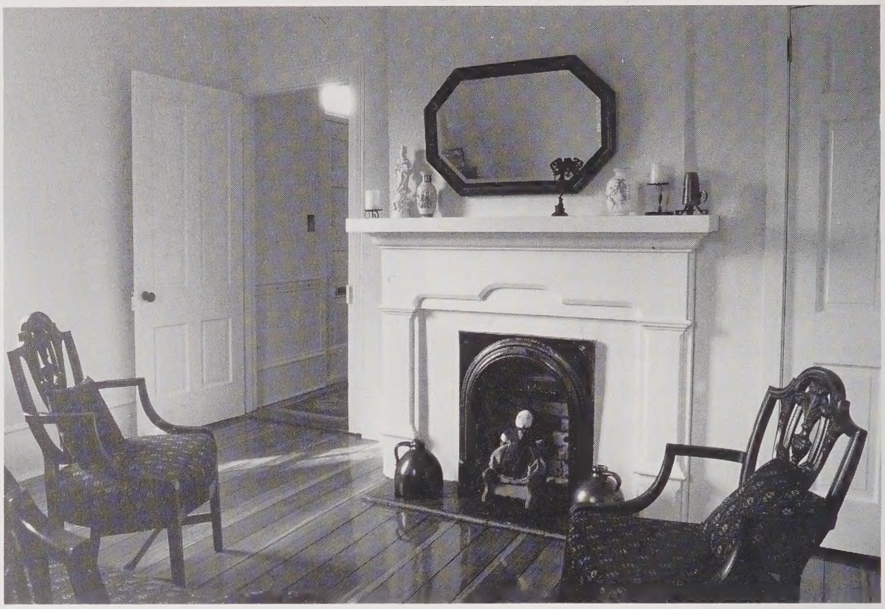
Store

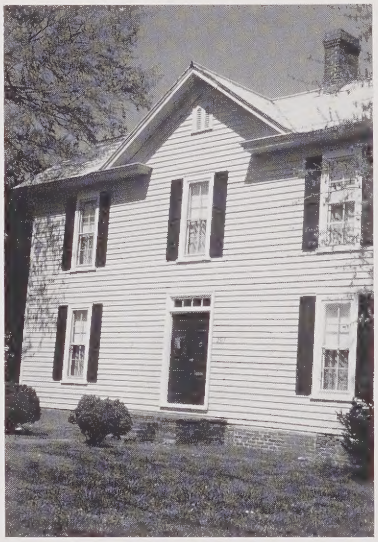
2517 South Academy Street
Jonesboro
1889

Jonesboro merchant John N. Barnes purchased a lot at the corner of "Academy Alley" (South Academy Street) and "Carthage Street" (Raleigh Street) in March 1889. In August, this two-story frame house was under construction by the McBryde Brothers of Jonesboro. Barnes and his wife, Isabella "Belle", the daughter of former Moore County sheriff Kenneth H. Worthy, probably moved into the house by the end of the year.

The Barnes House lacks its original front porch, but it retains a shingle-pattern pressed metal roof and a decorative vent in the front gable. Inside are many original features, including mantels with chamfered and molded pilasters and decorative friezes and a two-run center-passage stair with a turned newel and balusters. At the end of the two-story ell is the original kitchen, which formerly featured a basket-weave screen in the ceiling of one corner—perhaps a vent to help exhaust the heat from a cook stove. Off the north side of the ell, connected to it by an enclosed breezeway, is a one-story "summer kitchen," with a latticed porch. Behind the house is a small concrete-block servant's quarter constructed in the mid-twentieth century.

Owners: Ted H. and Elaine Hotaling.
Sources: Ted H. Hotaling; 1981 Historic Lee County calendar; Moore County Deed Book 8, p. 509; *Central Express*, August 10, 1889; *Sanford Express*, October 8, 1897; U.S. census schedules.


First-story south room


John N. and Isabella Barnes House

Servant's quarter behind house

JOHN D. McIVER HOUSE

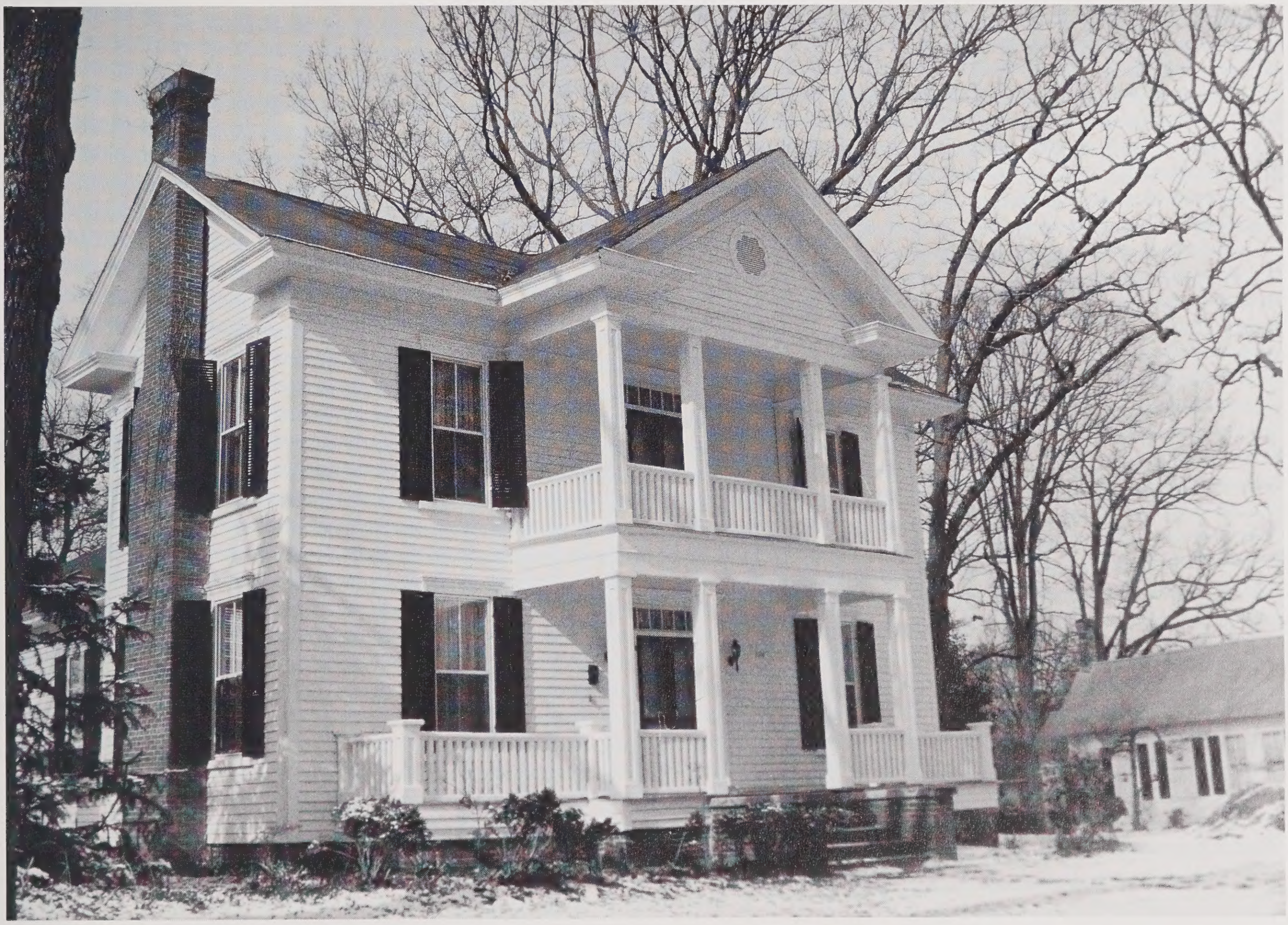
309 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
Ca. 1885

Before the development of Sanford, John Dalrymple McIver resided at his large farm on Buffalo Creek, but in the 1880s he moved into town to this two-story frame house, one of the oldest still standing on Hawkins Avenue. According to tradition, Hawkins Avenue had too much hustle and bustle for McIver's liking, and he moved back to his farm after living in town only one year. Later, the house was owned by E. B. Stroud and W. H. White, Sr.

The McIver House is a two-story frame dwelling with a two-tier front porch supported by paneled square wood columns and engaged under a gable with a decorative vent. Other Victorian detailing includes richly molded corner-board caps and a front door with Italianate arched glass panels. To the rear extends an original one-story ell with a decorative vent similar to that on the front gable. Early maps show a porch along the north side of the ell that formerly connected to a semidetached structure (possibly a kitchen) via a breezeway.

Owners: Tommy B. and Doris S. Crabtree.

Sources: McCracken and Bowen, "Hawkins Avenue"; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; Nancy Griffin, Lee County historian; Helen Gurley, longtime neighborhood resident; Sanborn maps.



John D. McIver House (Photo by Hal Tysinger)

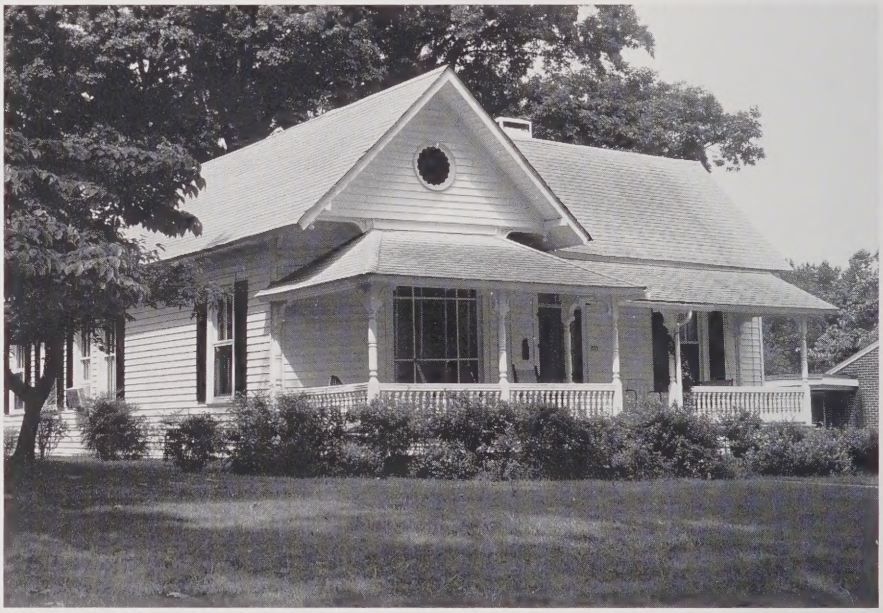
315 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
1893

Duncan Evander McIver (1861–1913) was once described as Sanford's "foremost citizen," an accolade he earned through his many business activities and years of distinguished political service. Educated at Moore County's Union Home School, the Bingham School, and the University of North Carolina, McIver left college in 1881 to tend to his family's farm near Buffalo Church and to assist his uncle, John D. McIver, at the McIvers store in Sanford. At the age of twenty-five he was elected to represent Moore and Randolph counties in the state legislature, and in later years he was instrumental in gaining passage of the legislation creating Lee County. He was a director of Sanford's first bank and was involved in the operation of the county's largest employer, the Sanford Cotton Mills. He also owned Sanford's first telephone company and served as the town's mayor in the early 1900s. McIver lived on the family farm (the Wesley and Jane C. McIver property) until 1893, when with his new bride Kate Scott (daughter of John W., Sr., and Kate S. Scott), he moved into this house. Kate McIver served as Lee County's deputy register of deeds in the 1940s, and she figured as one of Sanford's leading developers after her husband's death. McIver Park was one of her successful developments.

The McIver House has a gable roof, with an asymmetrical front gable that engages a bay window; a front porch with turned posts and balusters and other milled detailing; and decorative gable vents. An ell extends to the rear, and behind the house stands an early board-and-batten outbuilding. When it was built, the house was painted by M. (or D.) F. Utley of Jonesboro, a specialist in paper hanging, calcimining, "Maple Mahogany Walnut Cherry & Oak graining," and general painting. Duncan and Kate McIver's house is located next door to the John D. McIver House and across the street from the John W., Sr., and Kate S. Scott House.

Owner: Jerri D. Crissman.
Sources: McCracken and Bowen, "Hawkins Avenue"; Helen Gurley, longtime neighborhood resident; Nancy Griffin, Lee County historian; *Central Express*, July 20, 1889; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; *Sanford History*; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; *Know Sanford*; Sanford Town Minutes, 1919; business directories.

Duncan E. McIver, photo ca. 1910

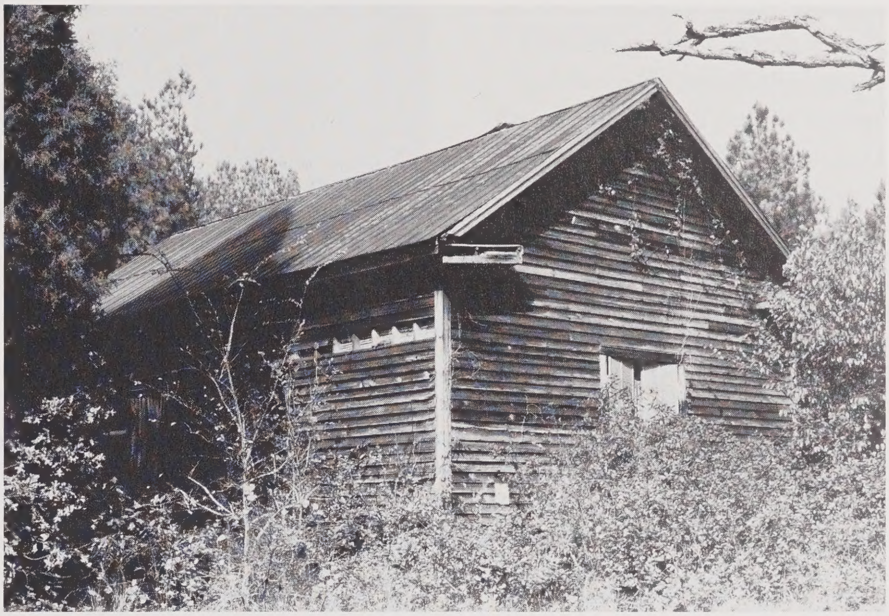

Duncan E. and Kate S. McIver House

Pocket Church Road (off Route 1318)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1883

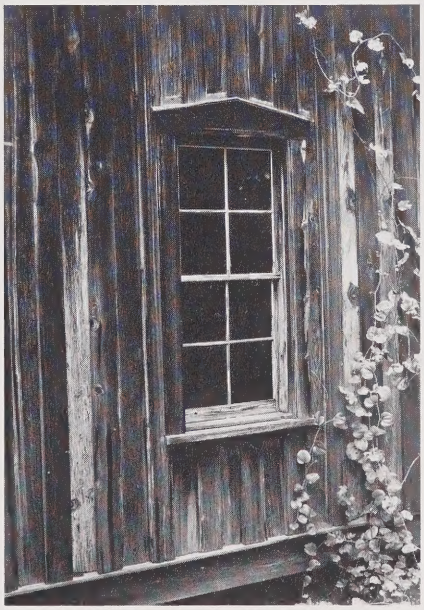
Pocket Academy, one of Lee County's most successful late-nineteenth-century schools, was established about 1883 by local farmer Evander McGilvary near the center of the loose-knit rural community of Pocket. The first principal was McGilvary's daughter-in-law, Annie Harrington McGilvary, who in 1884 taught music, drawing, and painting at the institution. By the late 1880s, enrollment had grown to fifty students, a "comfortable and modern" schoolhouse had been erected, and lodgings for boarding students were under construction. Between 1890 and 1898, the school doubled as a church until the Pocket Presbyterian Church was completed across Pocket Church Road. Eventually the academy was made into a public school, and a new schoolhouse (now demolished) was built across the road from the old academy (which still stands, in dilapidated condition).

Pocket Academy is a simple one-story frame building with an entrance on one gable end and a row of three windows on each side elevation. The interior is plainly detailed, with plaster walls and a flush-board ceiling. In the 1890s, a girls' dormitory was built across Pocket Church Road, and as many as four "cabins" were built for male boarding students. The girls' dormitory (now abandoned) is a one-story frame or boxed house with board-and-batten walls, lancet-arched louvered vents in the roof gables, and four-over-four-sash windows with peaked lintels. The center-passage-plan interior has unpainted board-and-batten partitions and four fireplaces that have been stripped of their mantels. The dormitory served both as lodgings for the girls who attended the academy and as the residence of a matron who cooked for and supervised the girls.

Sources: Ruth Cameron and Virginia Gladden, Pocket-area historians; 1981 Historic Lee County calendar; *Moore Gazette*, May 14 and July 31, 1884; *Central Express*, September 1 and November 18, 1888, and February 16 and June 1, 1889; *Sanford Express*, October 26, 1933; *Sanford Herald*, July 26, 1934, and April 22, 1972.



Pocket Academy



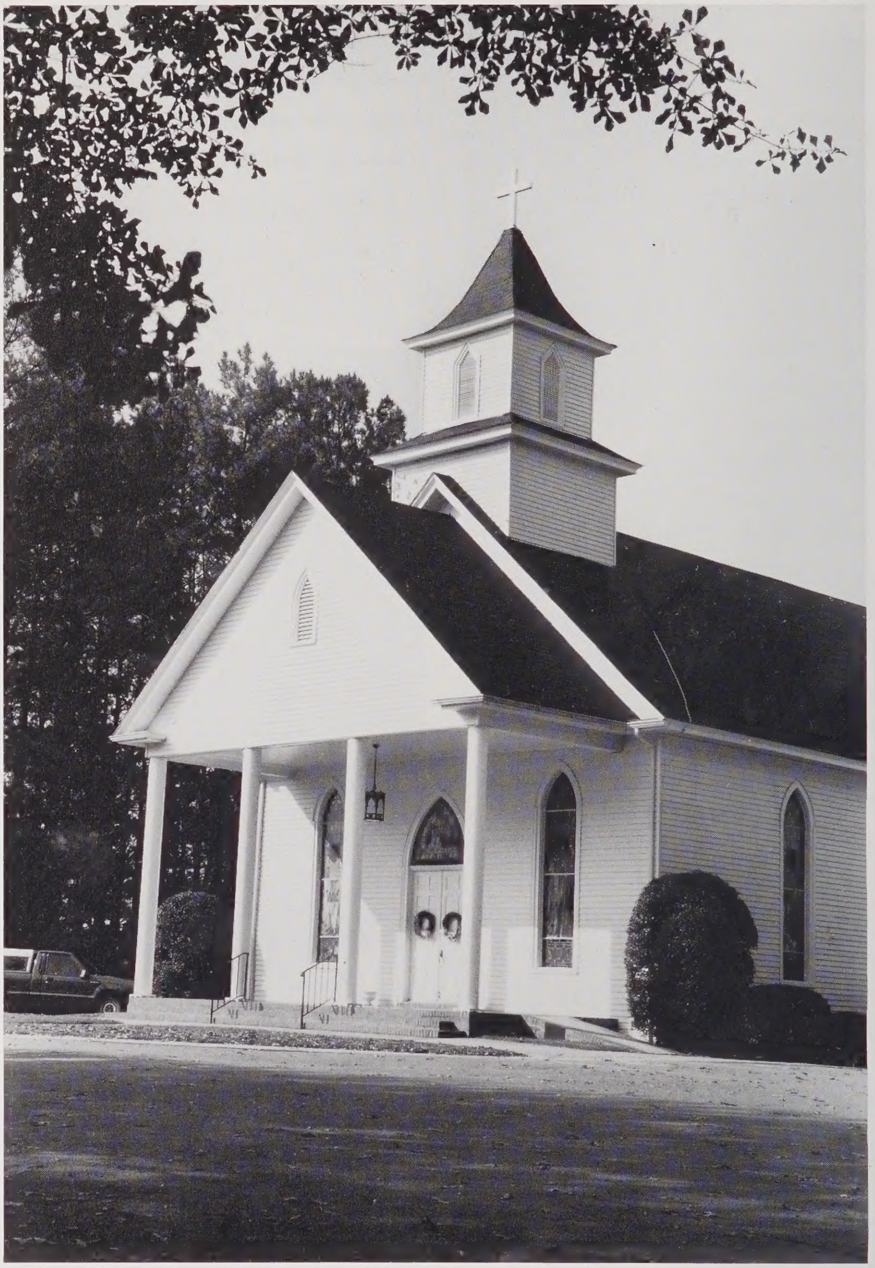
Window, Pocket Academy Girls Dormitory

Pocket Church Road (off Route 1318)
Sanford vicinity
1897–98

Pocket Presbyterian Church was organized in 1890 by fifty-two members of Buffalo Presbyterian Church and five members of Euphronia Presbyterian Church. The congregation met at nearby Pocket Academy until the present church building was built in 1897–98. Church elder and local builder William B. Campbell coordinated a team of church members in the construction of the church.

Originally, Pocket Presbyterian was an unpainted weatherboarded frame building with a nave form, decorative lancet windows, and a beaded tongue-and-groove interior with a peaked frame on the wall behind the altar. In 1922, the church was painted white, and in 1949–50, a frame Sunday school wing was added to the rear. In 1971, the congregation launched an extensive remodeling; a portico was added to the front, a two-story brick structure was added to the rear, and the building received aluminum siding and a new interior. The church also features a modern steeple, modern stained glass windows and, across Pocket Church Road, a cemetery.

Sources: Ruth Cameron, church historian; Bolls, *Pocket Presbyterians*; *Sanford Express*, September 5, 1924, and October 26, 1933; *Sanford Herald*, May 6, 1967.



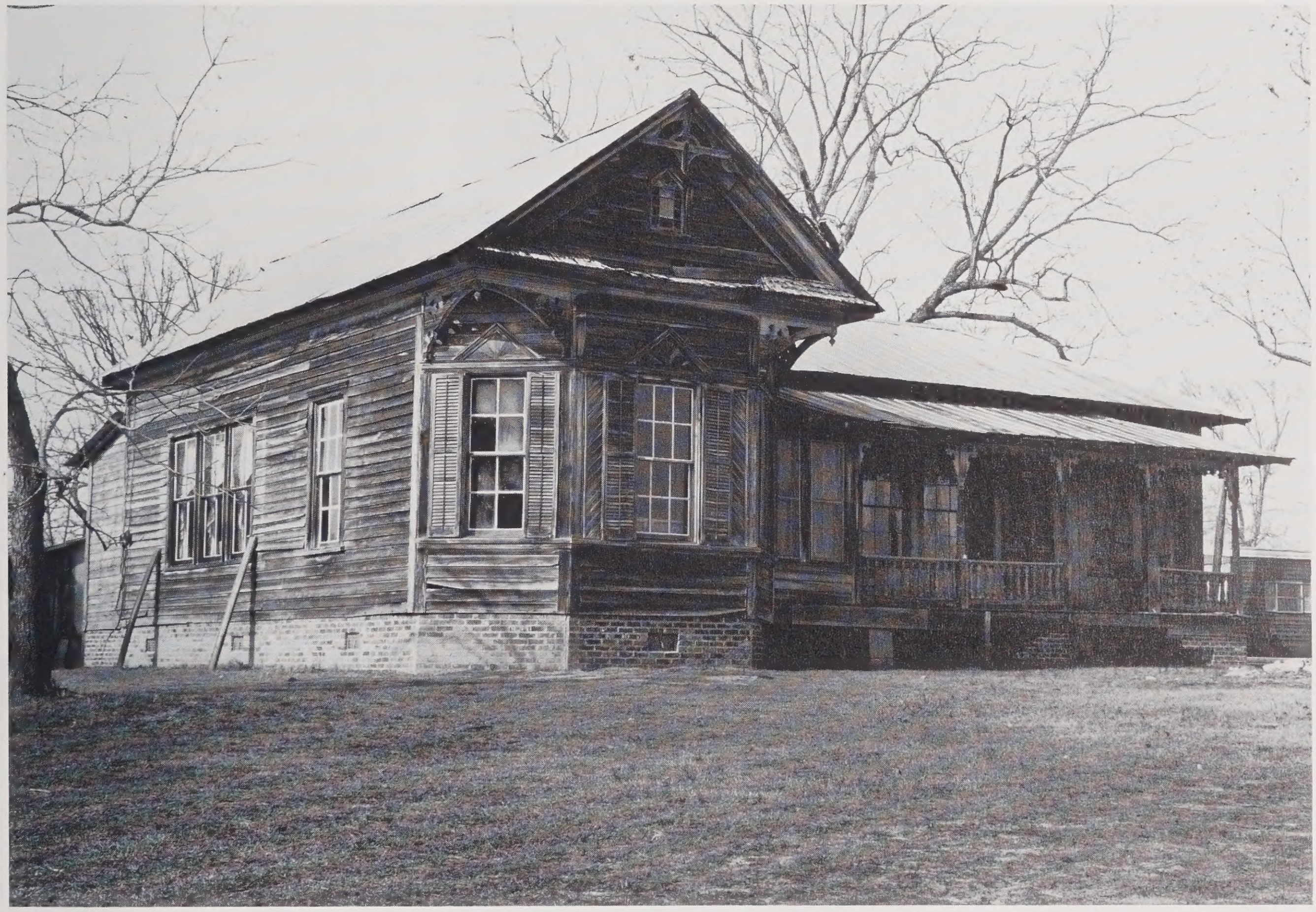
Pocket Presbyterian Church

5816 Sheriff Watson Road (SR 1162)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1890

This elaborately detailed one-story frame house dates to the late 1800s and once stood on East Main Street in Jonesboro. The house may have belonged to J. R. Watson (d. 1906), a partner with Jesse L. Godfrey in the Watson & Godfrey general store, and Jonesboro's mayor in 1902. Mabel Watson (probably J. R. Watson's daughter) lived in the house in the early 1900s.

The Watson House (or a portion of it) is reputed to have been the oldest in Jonesboro before it was moved, first to Harnett County, then in the 1980s to its present location in southern Lee County. The front elevation features a bay window, a gable with sawn ornamentation and a peaked stained glass window, and windows surmounted by peaked fanlike panels. Other details include a front porch with sawn and turned ornament, board-and-batten and weatherboard siding, and extensive rear wings.

Owner: Richard M. Buchanan, Sr.
Sources: Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; Peggy Womble, longtime Jonesboro resident; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; *Sanford Herald*, July 25, 1970; business directories.



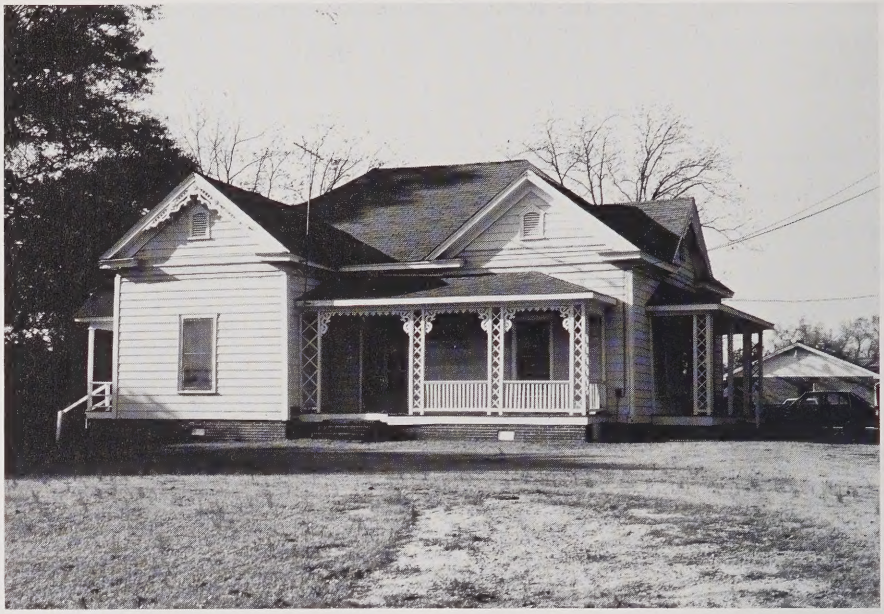
J. R. Watson House

2520 Dalrymple Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1890

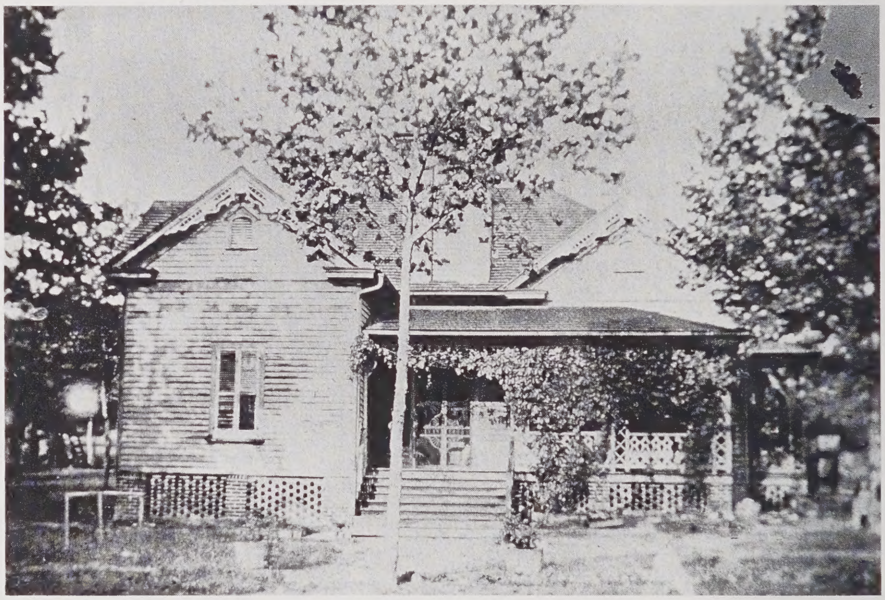
Union County native Charles A. Hamilton (d. 1960) purchased this late-nineteenth-century house in 1911. Hamilton served as a justice of the peace for thirty-two years, and on his retirement in 1954, it was reported that he had performed marriages "in cars, in buggies, in wagons, under street lights, and by car lights." Hamilton's first wife was Lottie Lee Humber of Jonesboro, who died in 1948. His second wife was Julia Dillard, originally of Georgia.

The one-story frame Hamilton House originally stood at 103 Raleigh Street, near the site of the former Jonesboro depot, but it was moved to its present location about 1980. The house is distinguished by its front and side porches, which have delicate latticed supports and elaborate milled frieze ornamentation. Though they were once common in the Jonesboro area, only a few houses with latticed porch posts like those of the Hamilton House survive. Other features include a hip roof with multiple projecting gables containing peaked vents and milled ornamentation. The house once featured a turret, sawn porch balustrades, and a latticed brick foundation.

Owners: Odell B. and Mary A. Thomas.
Sources: Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; Jonesboro Historical Society collection; *Sanford Herald*, December 3, 1954, and September 6, 1960.



Charles A. and Lottie L. Hamilton House



Hamilton House (Photo early 1900s, courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)

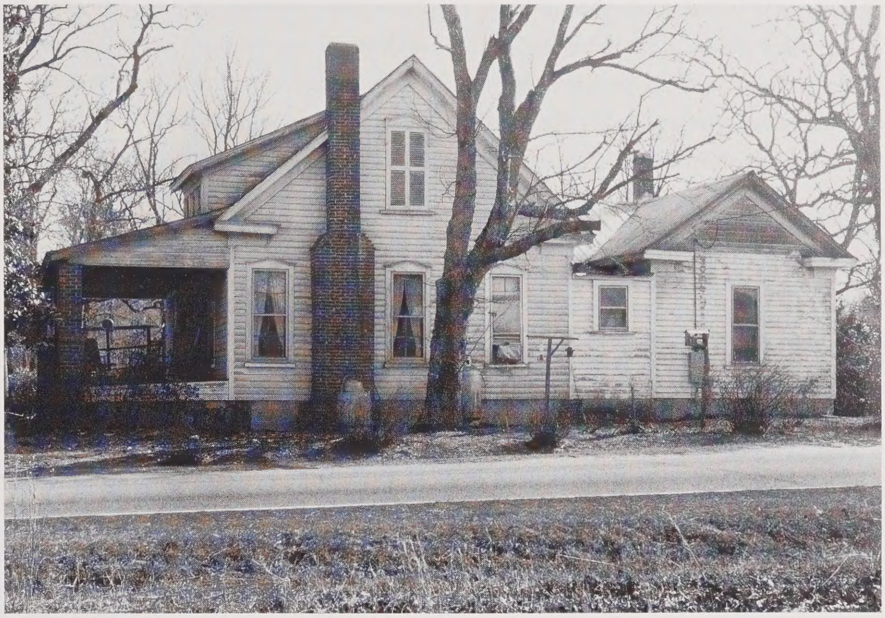
6201 Edwards Road (SR 1001)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1890

"Lemon Springs patriarch" John J. Edwards (ca. 1862–1940) was a cotton farmer who operated one of the first stores in the village of Lemon Springs, originally as J. J. Edwards & Company and later as Edwards & Booth. In the 1890s, Edwards and others published *The Hustler* newspaper in Lemon Springs, and with Duncan D. Buie and Marvin C. Reeves, Edwards formed the Farmer's Cotton Gin Company in 1918. Edwards also operated a tobacco warehouse, and he was active in the 1907 fight to form Lee County, later serving as the chairman of the county's first board of commissioners.

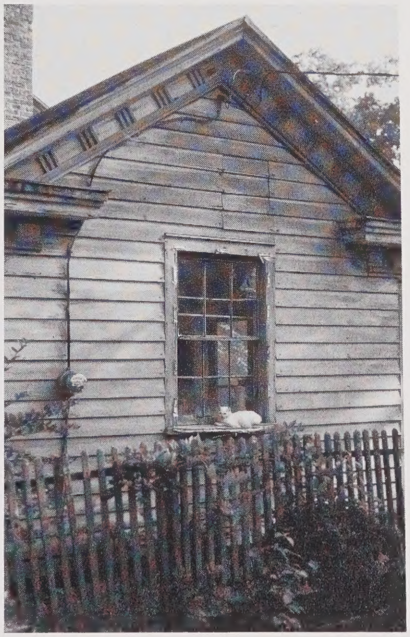
The Edwards farmhouse is a stylish, one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling that was built for John J. Edwards and his wife Mary J. in the early 1890s. The exterior retains several fine original features, such as peaked lintels over the windows and over a louvered vent in the west gable, and an ornamental front entry surround composed of moldings and faceted panels. Across the back of the house extends a kitchen and dining room section. In the 1920s, a large shed dormer and a Craftsman porch were added to the front. Notable on the interior is the front parlor, which has diagonal beaded tongue-and-groove panels outlined with molded strips and a mantel with large turned pilasters and turned shelf supports. Originally the parlor walls and mantel were grained. Clustered around the house are frame domestic and farm buildings, including a granary and livestock barn. Flanking the front walk are two large magnolias that were purchased from Fallon's Florist in Raleigh before 1900. The ruins of an earlier Edwards family home lie to the east of the farm.

Owners: Elizabeth Edwards Brantley, Glenda Edwards Toler, and Worth E. Perry.

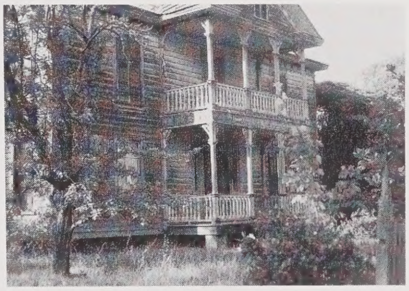
Sources: Elizabeth Edwards Brantley; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*, 26, 63; *Sanford Herald*, April 8, 1935, and March 24, 1932; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; business directories; U.S. census schedules.



John J. and Mary J. Edwards House



Ell of earlier Edwards House (Photo ca. 1980 by Alice Garrison)



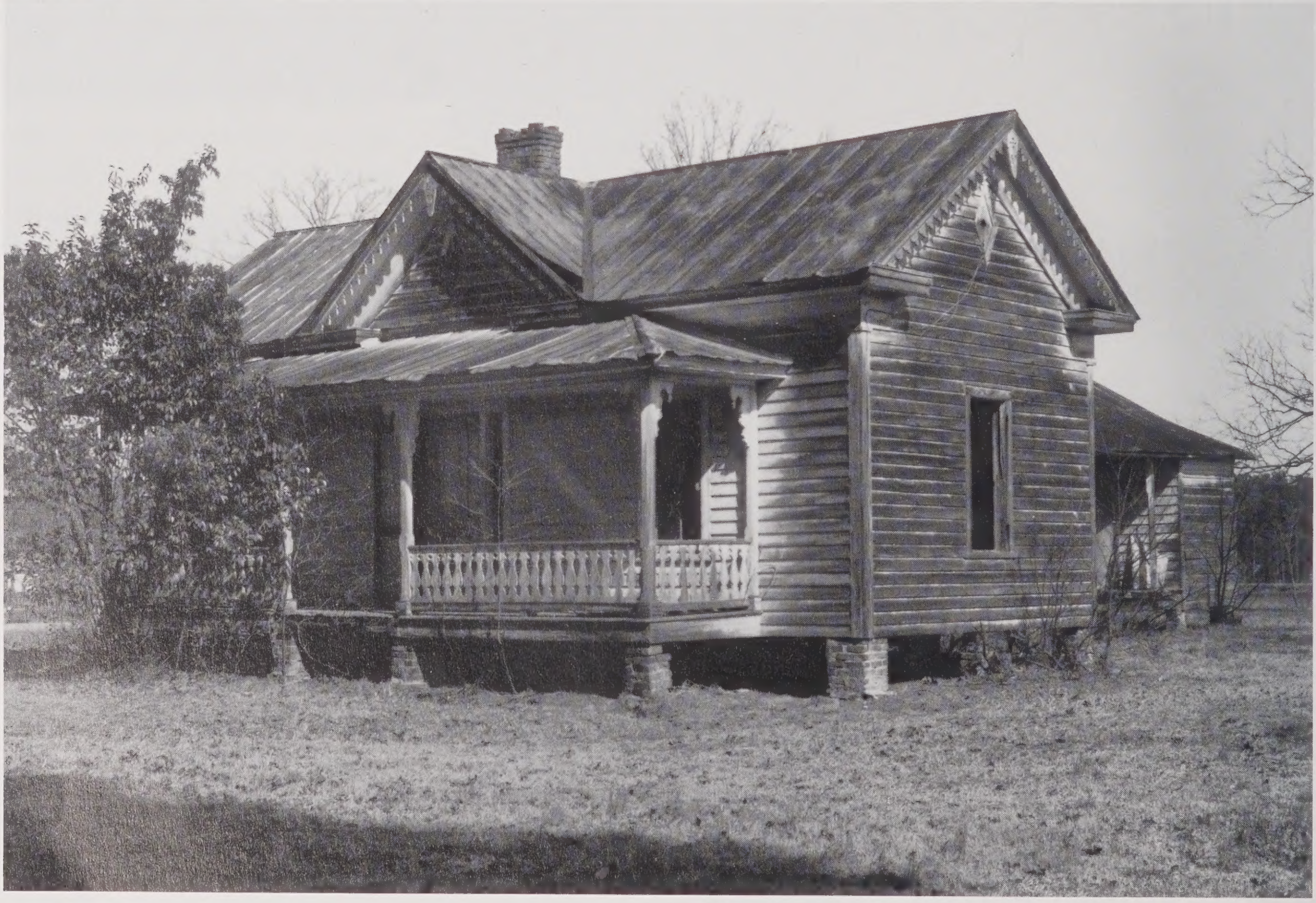
Earlier Edwards House (Photo ca. 1980 by Alice Garrison)

4831 Lemon Springs Road (SR 1160)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1890

Daniel and Mary Hall are said to have had the original section of this one-story frame house built in the mid-1800s. Hall was listed as a principal farmer in the Jonesboro area in the early 1880s, when he is believed to have sold his property to Asa J. Seawell. Seawell, who operated a blacksmith shop on the property, added wings to the two gable ends of the original house in the 1880s or 1890s.

The front section of the Hall-Seawell House features a porch with double-chamfered posts and sawn balusters and brackets. This section also has sawn bargeboards and vents and a center-passage plan. The original house is incorporated as an ell; nine-over-nine-sash windows and a simple chair rail attest to its being older than the front section and the rear kitchen and dining room wing. The interior has plaster walls, flush-board and beaded tongue-and-groove ceilings, a vernacular Greek/Gothic Revival mantel in the dining room, and a simple mantel with a step-molded shelf in the kitchen. Located between the house and Lemon Springs Road is the Hall family cemetery.

Owner: Francis Willett.
Sources: Francis Willett; business directories.



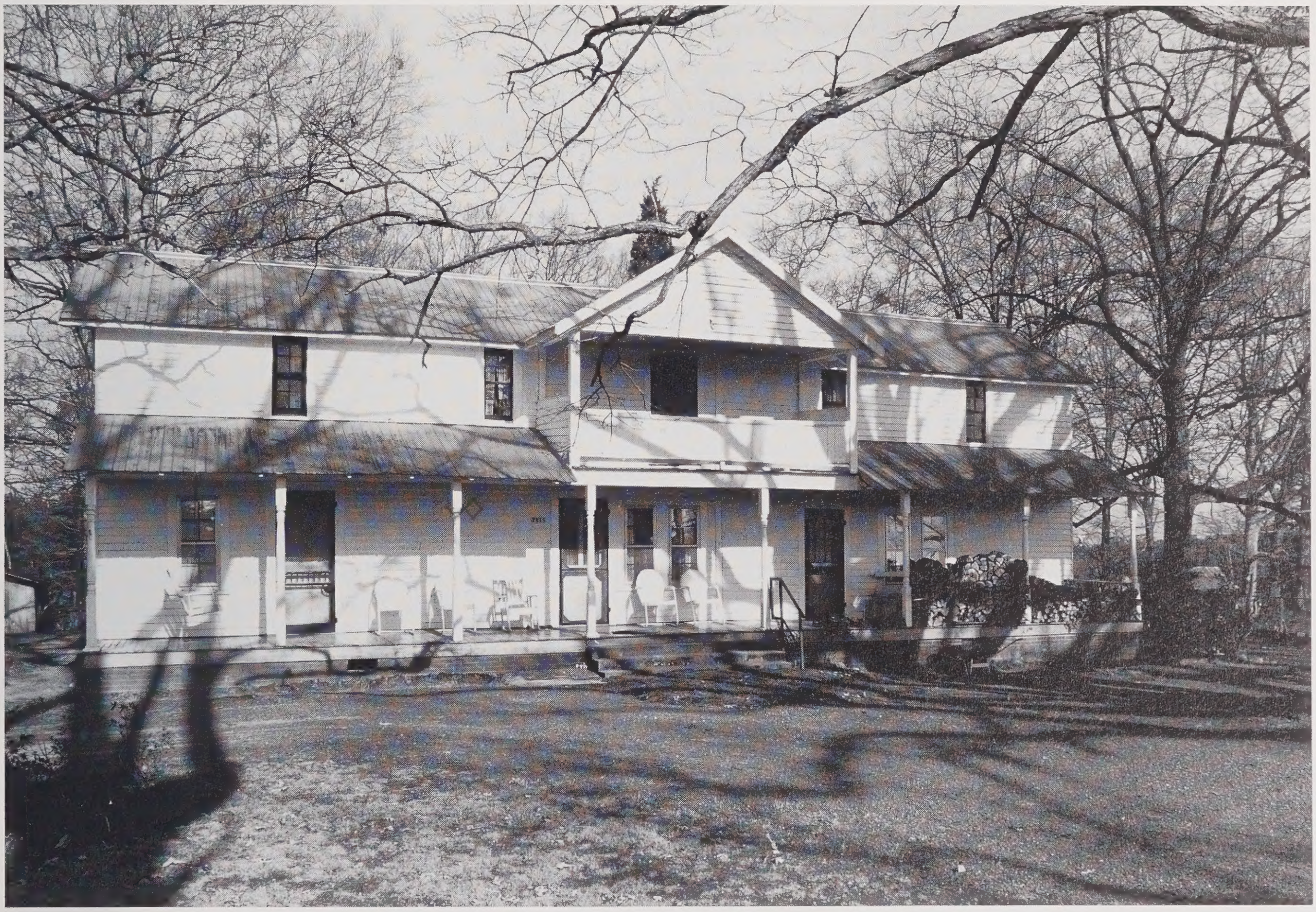
Hall-Seawell House

BRIDGES HOUSE

7915 Deep River Road (SR 1466)
Colon vicinity
Ca. 1895

Sandy Wilson Bridges (1867–1913) married in 1892 and probably had the original log core of this two-story house built shortly thereafter. Bridges's children added frame rooms and an ell in the early 1900s. The completed house has a long front elevation with a one- and two-story porch, weatherboard siding, and a metal-sheathed gable roof. Near the house are barns and sheds; in the front yard is a low brownstone wall. A copper mine was operated in the early 1900s on the Bridges property across Deep River Road at the head of Copper Mine Creek.

Owner: Warren Jake Wicker.
Source: Warren Jake Wicker.



Bridges House (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

Tempting Church Road (SR 1322)
Sanford vicinity
Ca. 1895

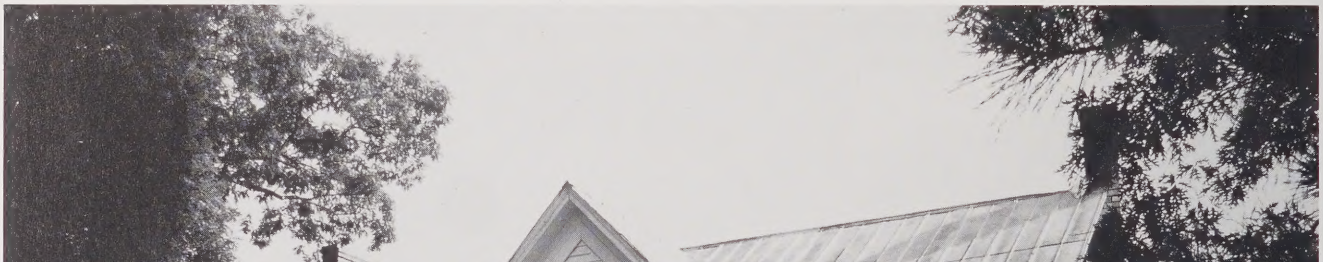
Marcelus "Cell" Baker (1850–1900) first purchased 133 acres in the Tempting black community in 1885; ten years later he purchased an additional 1,002 acres. Baker and his wife, Ann, donated a one-acre parcel to the trustees of a Congregational church, the forerunner of nearby Tempting Church, which was already standing on the date of the deed in 1897. Baker may have been a participant in the racial disturbance that occurred in Sanford on Christmas Day, 1888.

The Bakers probably had this one-story, center-passage-plan frame house built in the 1890s. The house has a front porch with turned posts and balusters and sawn brackets, and—until recent remodeling work—large corner piers fashioned from single brownstone blocks. The relatively conventional exterior belies elaborate interior treatments. The east parlor has a coved ceiling and "bone-fashion" walls sheathed in chevron-pattern beaded tongue-and-groove boards divided into panels by molded battens. The east parlor mantel is a tour de force of late-nineteenth-century millwork, with incised patterns, freestanding spindlework, and a mirrored overmantel in a decorative frame. The more sedate west parlor features a cylindrical wall-mounted metal safe.

In past years the Baker House stood at the center of an extensive farm complex that comprised tobacco barns, a large frame livestock barn, and a store operated by later owner James Palmer during the 1940s. Surviving structures include a collapsed saddle-notched log meat house, a cinder-block meat house, and a board-and-batten pack house with an ordering pit underneath.

Owner: Andrew Palmer, Sr.

Sources: Gertrude Snipes and Andrew Palmer, Sr., longtime area residents; Moore County Deed Book 8, pp. 533 and 536, and Deed Book 12, p. 40; Moore County Judgment Docket Book A, docket 359 (1889); *Sanford Herald*, July 29 and September 2, 1948.



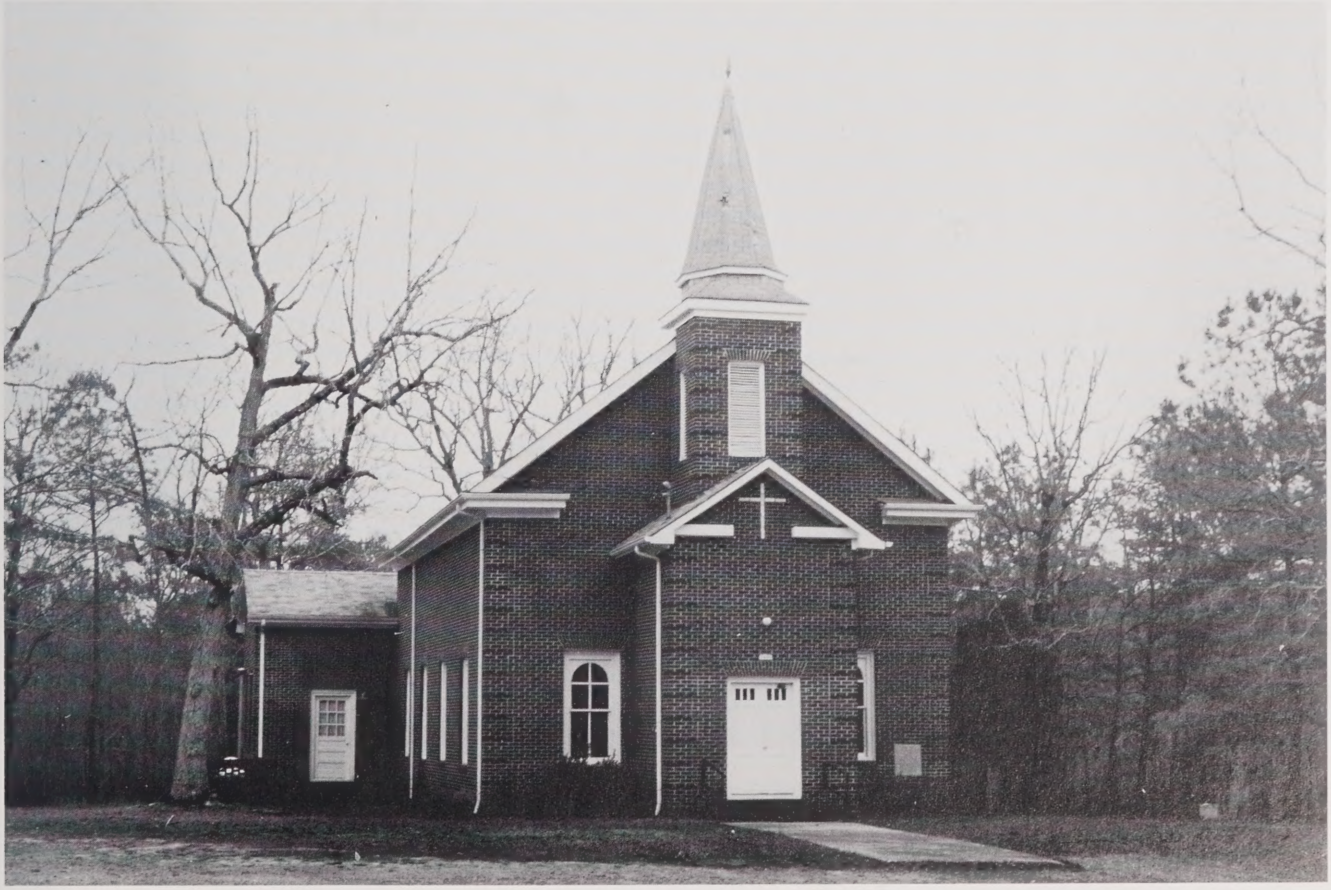
Marcelus and Ann Baker House

ST. PAUL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

Cumnock Road (SR 1400)
Cumnock
Ca. 1890

In 1880, James Thompson, Sam McIver, and Tom (?) McIver, trustees of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, were granted a one-acre parcel on the south boundary of the Egypt Property for use as "a place of Divine Worship." St. Paul, as the church was known, was organized shortly after the Civil War, in part by freedmen who had been slaves on several McIver plantations located in the Cumnock area. In the early 1900s, the one-story frame church had weatherboard siding, front and side windows with louvered wooden shutters, and a small belfry perched on the front end of the roof; later, a front entry tower with an octagonal spire was added. In 1976, the church was given a brick veneer with Colonial Revival details, such as projecting brick quoins and jack arches. Other features include windows with round-arched sashes and textured, colored glass panes, and a rear educational wing that incorporates an earlier apse. Several burial plots are located near the church, but the principal cemetery is located to the south across Cotten Road (SR 1403). A prominent feature of this cemetery is a row of ten concrete tomb slabs, the most recent dating to 1982.

Sources: Mabel Atkins, church member; church pamphlet; Murchison, *Yesteryears*.



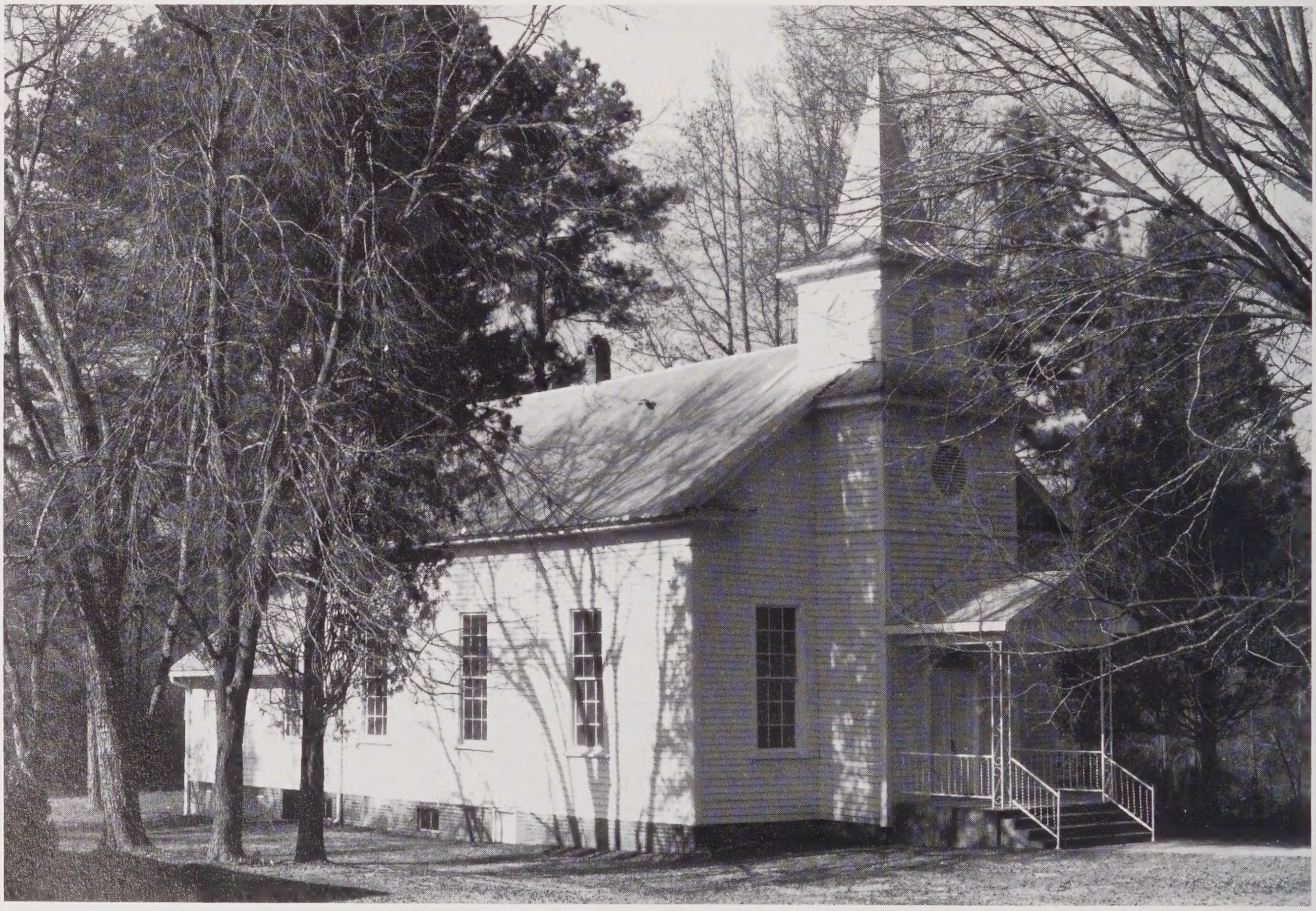
St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church

CUMNOCK METHODIST CHURCH

5513 Cumnock Road (SR 1400)
Cumnock
Ca. 1890

Cumnock Methodist Church was organized in 1886, and by 1914 this one-story frame building was built on a site to the west of Cumnock Road. The church is said to have been built during a boom period in Cumnock's history, probably following the resumption of coal-mining activity in the late 1880s. In 1914, the church was moved to its present location. A Congregational Christian group was the first to use the church, but the building has served a number of denominations over the course of its history, including the Society of Friends, or Quakers. The church has a front entry tower with a pyramidal spire and round and peaked louvered vents; tall nine-over-nine-sash windows on the front and side elevations; a rear wing; and a modern stoop on metal supports. The Cumnock Methodist Church has the distinction of being located at the geographic center of the state of North Carolina.

Sources: Eleanor Burns, church member; *Sanford Herald*, November 22, 1939; *The Pilot*, September 19, 1952.



Cumnock Methodist Church (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

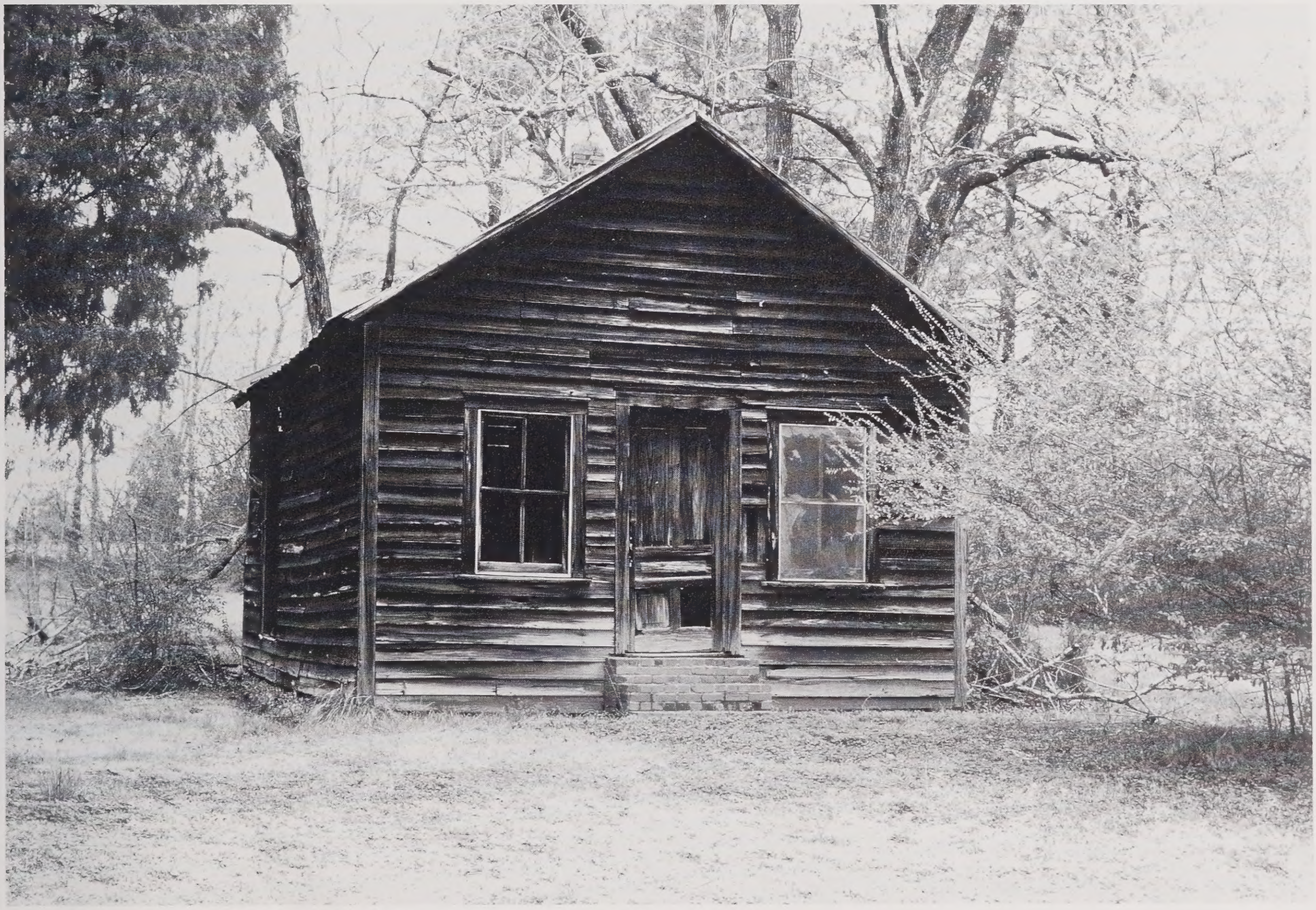
CUMNOCK POST OFFICE

Cumnock Road (SR 1400)
Cumnock
Ca. 1900

This small, relatively intact, but deteriorated post office is constructed out of materials from the store of Peter Evans, the Cumnock area's largest plantation owner during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The Evans store, which stood on the north side of the present building and may have been known as "the old red store," contributed several items to the post office—molded weatherboard siding, hewn structural members, and a window shutter hung on hand-wrought strap hinges.

The Cumnock Post Office has a standard commercial gable-front form with two-over-two-sash windows flanking a four-panel front door. The post office itself, partitioned off from the rest of the interior, has a dutch door, a counter, shelves, and a mail drop under the front window.

Sources: Mary and Max Hall, longtime area residents; *The Pilot*, September 19, 1952.



Cumnock Post Office

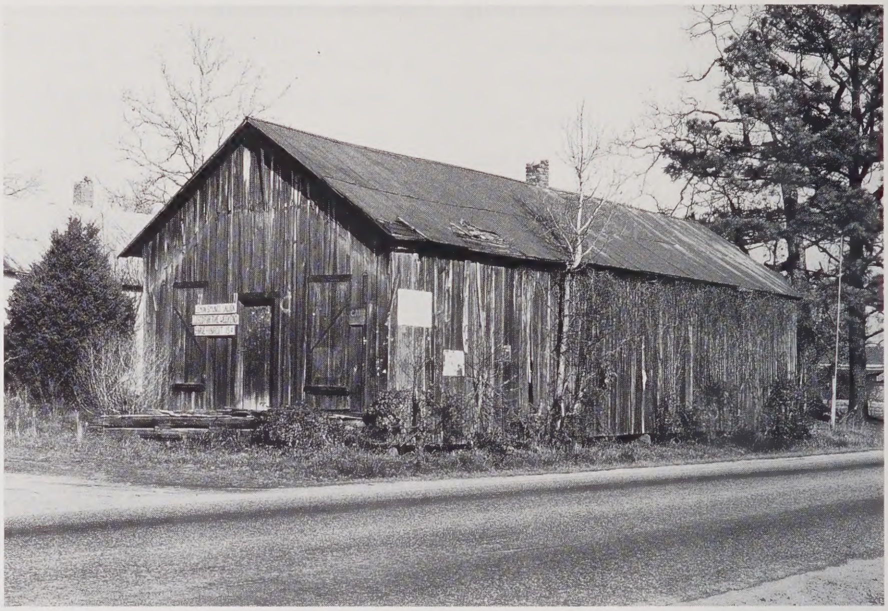
Greenwood and Joe Matthews roads (SR 1144 and SR 1159)
Lemon Springs
Ca. 1900

During Lemon Springs' heyday at the turn of the twentieth century, merchants erected several stores—three of which survive—at the point where Greenwood Road crosses the Seaboard tracks. The abandoned Edwards & Booth Store and the Greenwood Hardware Store, located on the east side of the tracks, evoke the atmosphere of a Western ghost town. John J. Edwards probably erected his board-and-batten store in the 1890s, when he advertised dry goods and notions "at very close prices." He later went into partnership with a Mr. Booth. The Edwards & Booth Store rests on a foundation of lightwood blocks and retains remnants of old wallpaper applied directly to the inside surface of the outer walls. A modern sign reads "LEMON SPRINGS SALOON/CLOSED FOR THE WEEKEND/SHAVE & HAIRCUT 15ct." Formerly, the front entrance facing the railroad tracks was sheltered by a hip-roofed porch.

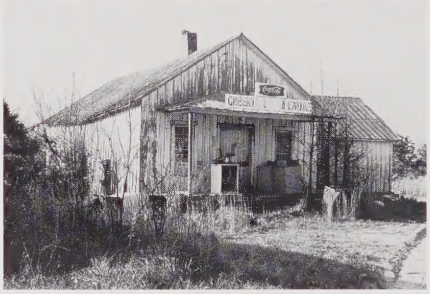
Next door stands the Greenwood Hardware Store, a board-and-batten building that may have been built by David L. Guess in the 1890s and was run by Mr. and Mrs. John K. McLeod in the early 1900s. Mrs. McLeod tended the Lemon Springs post office in one corner of the store. The barred windows on the gable end have painted signage reading "GOODS" and "POST OFFICE." Inside, the beaded tongue-and-groove walls are lined with shelves.

Across the Seaboard tracks to the west stands the only operational store in the group: the N. C. Thomas Store, built in 1915. The Thomas Store was later owned by the Bowman family, and in 1923 it was sold to Surry County native Richard Lee Ferguson. Like its neighbors across the tracks, the Thomas Store is a gable-fronted frame building. A beaded-tongue-and-groove counter and original shelving with bracketed cornices survive on the interior.

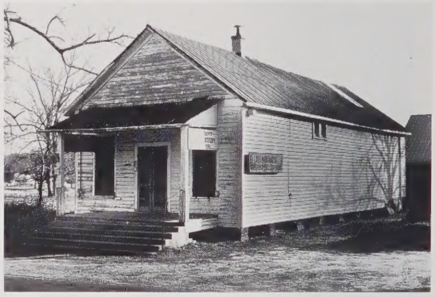
Sources: Elizabeth Edwards Brantley, Maude Ferguson, and Lucille McGilvary, longtime area residents; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*; *Sanford Herald*, October 25, 1973; Lee County Map Book 1, p. 7.



Edwards & Booth Store



Greenwood Hardware



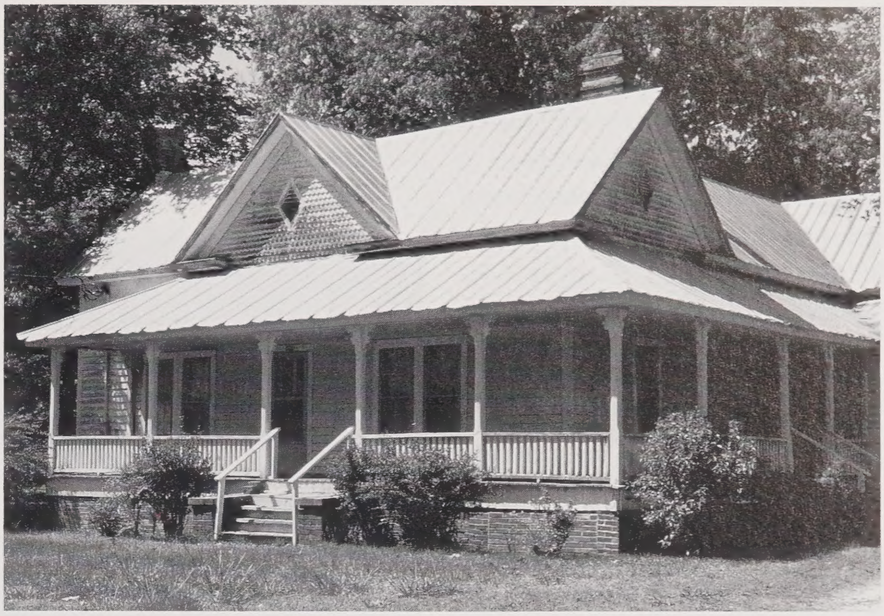
N. C. Thomas Store

THOMAS FARM

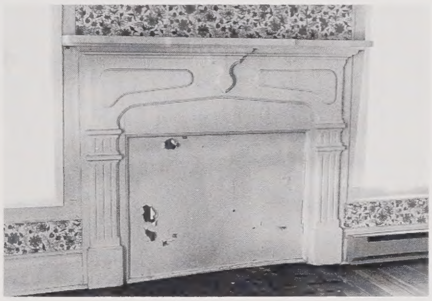
525 Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1900

The one-story frame farmhouse on this extensive farm incorporates as a rear wing a mid-1800s Greek Revival residence with a center-passage plan, brick end chimneys, and paneled corner pilasters. The later front of the house, which was probably built about 1900, has a wraparound porch, Victorian and Craftsman mantels on the inside, and fish-scale wood shingles in a front gable. Behind the house stands a one-story frame dwelling with a stone chimney that is said to have served as a caretaker's house in the twentieth century. Nearby stand domestic outbuildings, a pack house, a barn, a latticed crib, and a large wagon shelter. The property is one of several Thomas family farms in the Broadway area that feature large wagon shelters.

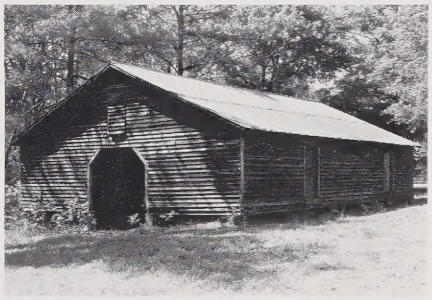
Owners: John and Mary Neopolitan.
Sources: Audree (Thomas) Freeman; Bill Freeman, Lee County historian.



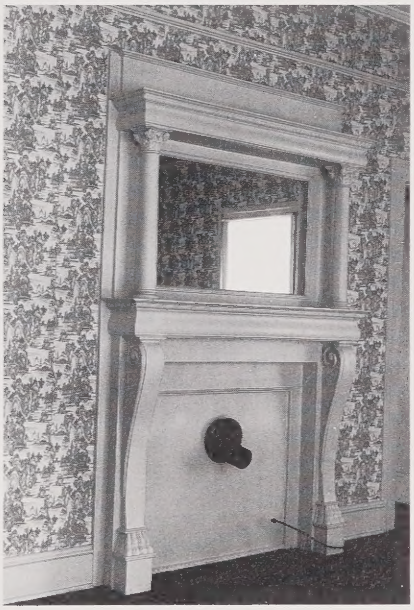
Thomas House



Mantel in later section



Wagon shelter



Mantel in later section

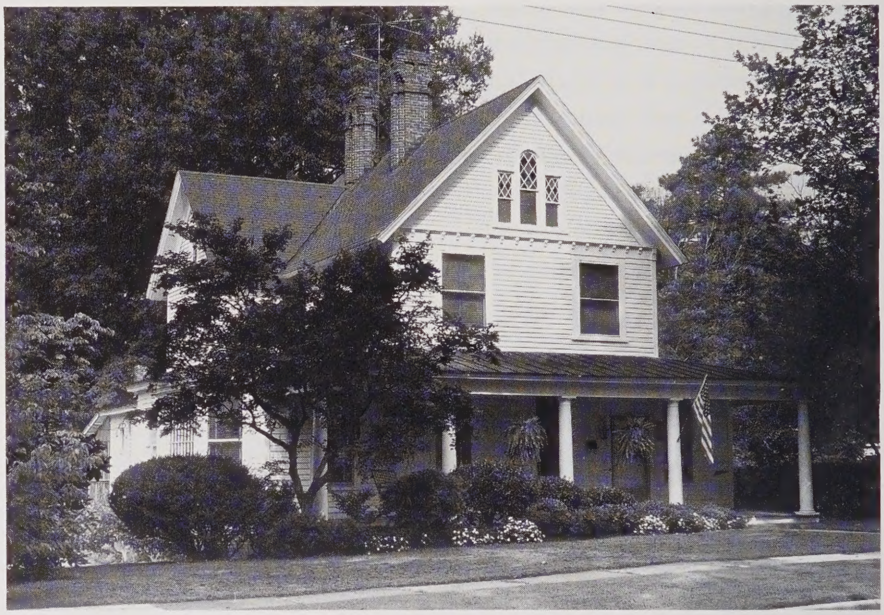
405 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
Ca. 1900

The Hilands-Crabtree House is one of Sanford's finer Queen Anne–style residences. The house was apparently built about 1900 for northerners R. V. and Nellie Hilands. R. V. Hilands, a hotel manager by trade, came to Sanford in 1897 "with his health completely broken down." Hilands claimed that a few weeks of Sanford's "excellent climate and pure air" reinvigorated him, and he spearheaded a campaign to build the Pine Cone Inn in Sanford, a rambling resort hotel designed by mail-order architect George Barber of Knoxville, Tennessee. The hotel, pictured in an 1897 *News and Observer* article on Sanford, was never built. R. V. Hilands may have been involved in the establishment of a furniture factory (possibly the Sanford Manufacturing Company) to the south of town shortly after 1900. In 1904, the Hilands House was sold to druggist W. A. Crabtree (1871–1961) and his wife, Emily Coleman Crabtree (1872–1944), for $3,000, and the property remained in the Crabtree family until 1989.

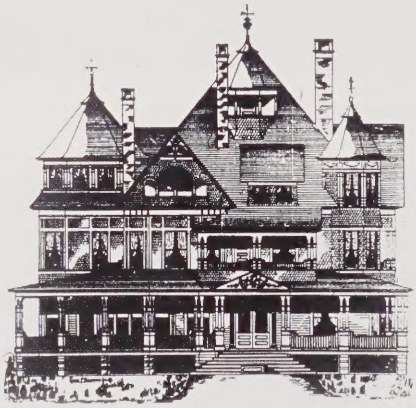
The two-story frame house features a fish-scale wood-shingled front gable and a Palladian gable window with textured and colored glass panes. Rising above the roof ridge are two brick chimneys with elaborate corbeled caps. A one-story porch supported by classical columns extends across the front; formerly this porch wrapped around the south side (a section now enclosed), and a tureted element at the southeast corner provided visual interest.

Owners: Timothy Lee and Sharon G. Mercer.

Sources: Nancy Griffin, Lee County historian; McCracken and Bowen, "Hawkins Avenue"; Moore County Deed Book 27, p. 507; Lee County Deed Book 4, p. 210; *News and Observer*, June 6, 1897; *Sanford Express*, June 25, 1897; *Sanford History*; Sanborn maps; U.S. census schedules.



Hilands-Crabtree House



The Pine Cone Inn, 1897 rendering (Courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

BURNS FARM

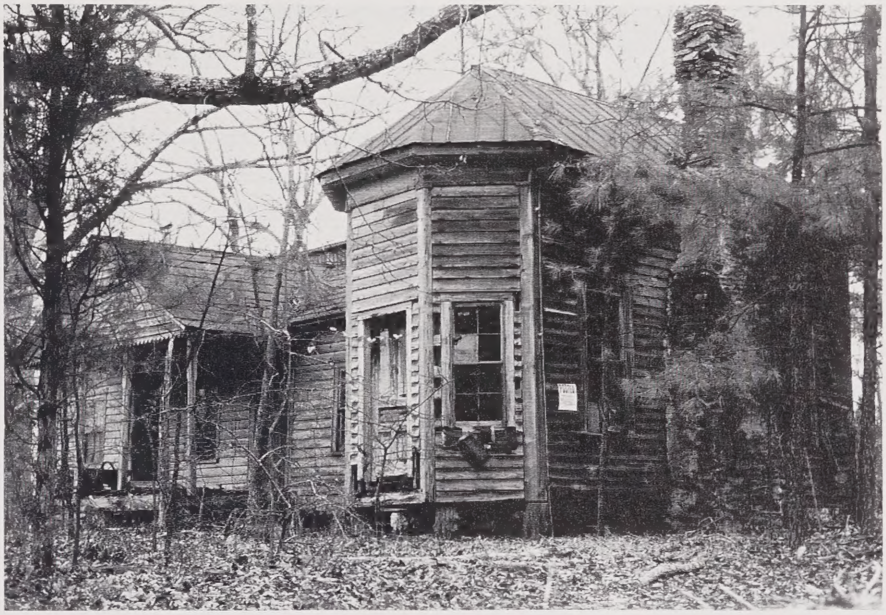
Buckhorn Road (SR 1538)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1900

As an individualized vernacular interpretation of a standard Queen Anne cottage, the Burns farmhouse is one of Lee County's most curious dwellings. The one-story frame house was built about 1900 by Patrick (b. ca. 1869) and Isabelle Burns to replace an early-nineteenth-century frame house that stood a short distance to the south. This earlier house may have had a coastal cottage form similar to its neighbor, the Douglas-Lett House. Patrick Burns and his son, Ulysses Grant Burns, both carpenters, probably built the house and its additions.

At the core of the Burns House is a two-room dwelling with front and rear porches and a breezeway that connects to a semidetached kitchen. Added to the east end of the house is a high-ceilinged hip-roofed room with a bay-window end. One unusual feature of the house is a raised band of pressed metal shingles that runs along the ridge of the roof. In the early 1900s, the individual shingles were painted white and green in an alternating checker pattern, to complement the white and green paint scheme of the house exterior. The front porch is supported by chamfered posts and has a sawtooth fringe running along the bottom of its gable roof. Adjoining the rear breezeway is a suspended dairy, an outdoor cabinet for keeping milk and other foods cool. Inside the house, one room features a stenciled frieze of green roses and leaves with gold accents and a hatched border. According to Burns family tradition, an itinerant painter created this design using buttermilk paint. The room in the bay-windowed section formerly had a large opening connecting it to the middle room in the main section of the house.

The Burns family operated a commissary in front of the house, and during the Great Depression some customers performed odd jobs around the farm to pay for supplies. The commissary is a tall frame building with a gable roof and a shed-roofed front porch. On the porch are two large weatherboarded bins, one of which was used to store animal feed. Also in front of the house is a quartzite boulder that may have served as a mounting block (for mounting a horse or buggy). Nearby are a pack house, two log tobacco barns, and several sheds.

Owner: Erma T. Burns.
Sources: Erma T. Burns; Vernie Womack, Broadway-area historian; U.S. census schedules.



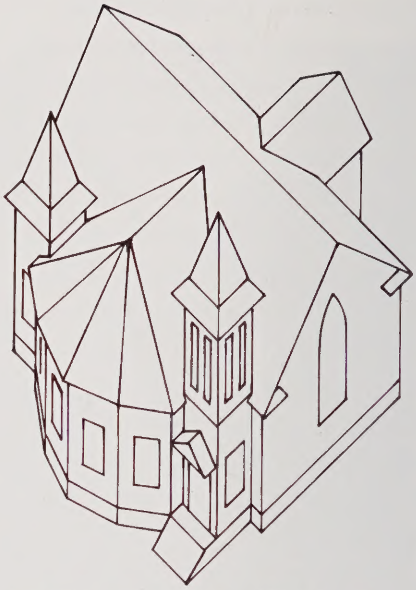
Burns House

Dairy on back porch

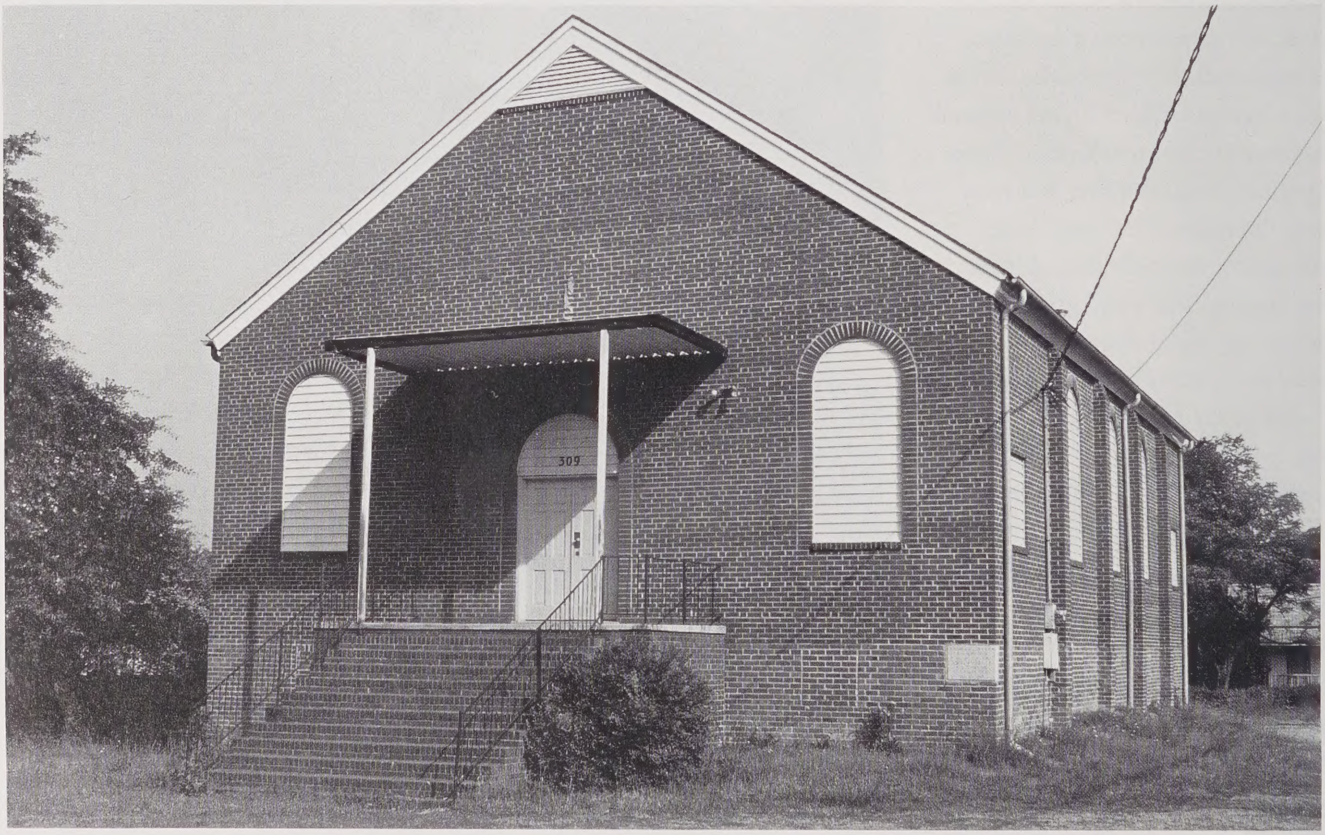
309 Humber Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1892

In 1892, the trustees of the "Colored Presbyterian Church at Jonesboro" known as St. John's purchased a lot bounded by Dalrymple, Globe, and Humber streets in Jonesboro. At this site the congregation built a frame church, an unusual gable-roofed building with Queen Anne windows and a polygonal front wing flanked by two towers, one of which contained the main entry. The members of St. Augustine's Presbyterian Church in Lemon Springs merged with St. John's in the 1950s, and in the 1960s St. John's merged with Blandonia Presbyterian Church in Sanford, which placed it in the pastorate of local civil rights leader the Rev. James R. Hampton. In the late 1950s, church members brick-veneered their old building, creating the present simple Colonial Revival appearance. After the Blandonia merger, St. John's was acquired by Sanford Masonic Lodge No. 101; the James Hill Chapter No. 63, Order of the Eastern Star, helped the Masons raise the purchase money by holding raffles and bingo games. Today, Prince Hall (as the building is known) provides meeting space to several organizations and serves as the headquarters for District 26 of the Order of the Eastern Star, which comprises thirteen chapters.

Sources: Philip H. McDavid and Ruby T. Maxwell, Lee County historians; "Masonic Lodge 309 Humber Street"; Howard, "Presbyterian Church (USA) Sanford"; Sanborn maps; Moore County Deed Book 9, p. 255.



Isometric reconstruction of church in its original form



St. John's Presbyterian Church

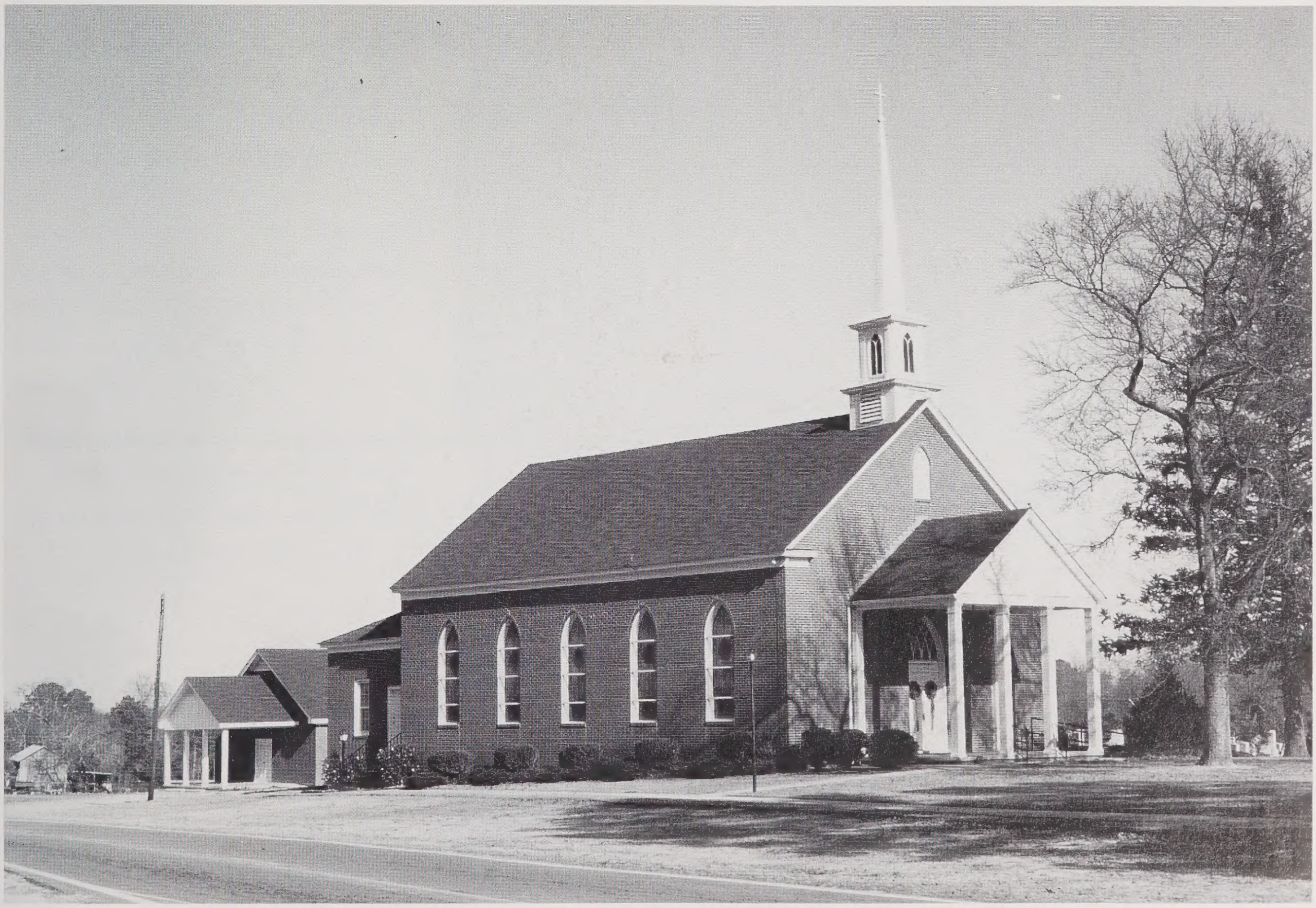
ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3626 Swanns Station Road (SR 1144)
Lemon Springs vicinity
1893

The origins of the St. Andrews congregation date to 1857, when a Sunday school was established in a schoolhouse located between the present communities of Lemon Springs and Swann's Station. In 1864, St. Andrews was officially organized by the Fayetteville Presbytery and a log church was constructed. John C. Sinclair served as the first supply pastor, and in 1892 D. M. McIver became the first installed pastor; the present frame church was built a year later. An educational building was completed in 1953, and the church was veneered with brick in 1954.

St. Andrews has a nave form with a gable front, a portico supported by square columns, a modern spire, and lancet-shaped stained glass memorial windows presented to the church in 1943. The 1953 educational wing and a more recent fellowship hall located behind the church are brick-veneered one-story buildings. A cemetery extends to the east; most of the headstones are twentieth-century marble and granite monuments.

Sources: Lucille McGilvary, longtime area resident; "St. Andrews Presbyterian Church"; Holt, *Martin Van Morris Descendants.*



St. Andrews Presbyterian Church

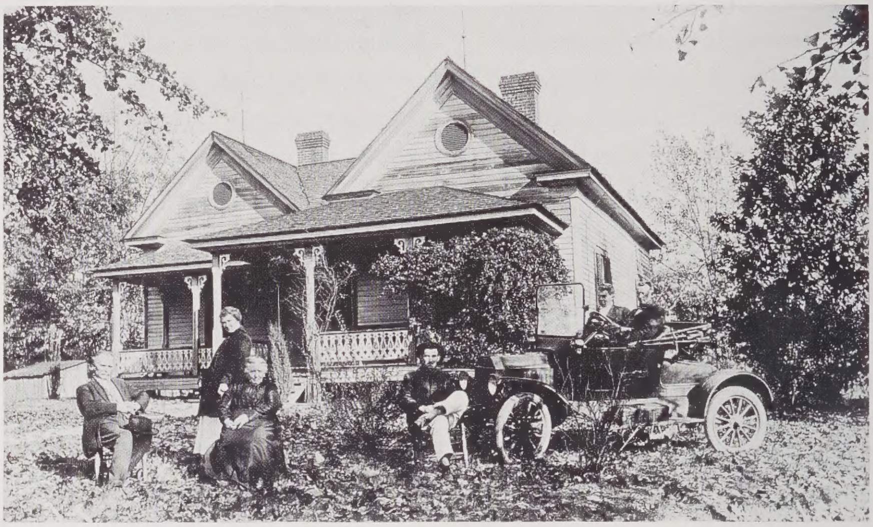
5318 Carbonton Road (NC 42)
Carbonton vicinity
1898–1900

Owner: Nathan E. "Ed" Paschal.
Sources: N. E. (Ed) Paschal; Moore County Deed Book 18, p. 401; 1898 Sanford Sash & Blind bill of sale in possession of owner.

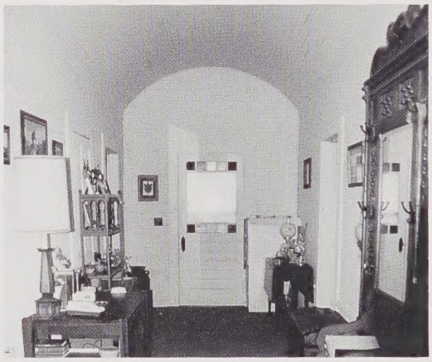
Walter T. and Beulah Gilliam had this one-story frame house built in 1898–1900 on a tract of eighty acres bought from Alex McIver. Most of the materials for the house were purchased from the Sanford Sash & Blind Company in 1898. The house features sophisticated massing, with two gable-fronted elements—one projecting in front of the other—yoked together by a center passage. A porch with chamfered posts, sawn brackets, and a carefully restored sawn balustrade extends across the front under gables featuring cornice returns and circular louvered vents. A formerly detached kitchen/dining room wing extends to the rear, now connected to the main house by an enclosed room and porch.

The front entry, which has a door with a glass panel bordered by stained glass panes, opens into a barrel-vaulted center passage sheathed in tongue-and-groove boards. The parlor in the projecting front wing has a cove ceiling with a four-square pattern of diagonal beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing; the walls have herringbone-pattern tongue-and-groove panels divided by molded strips.

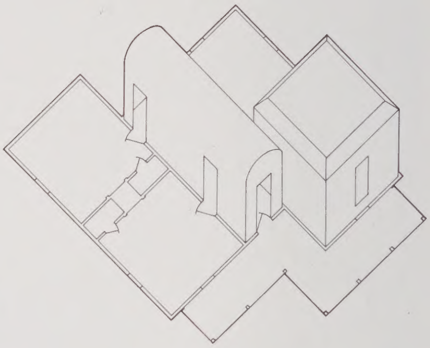
The Gilliam Store, built about the same time as the house, is a one-story frame building that served as a voting place for much of the twentieth century. The store features a gable-front entry, a front porch supported by narrow chamfered posts, and a board shutter affixed to one of the four-over-four-sash windows. Inside are early shelves and counters.



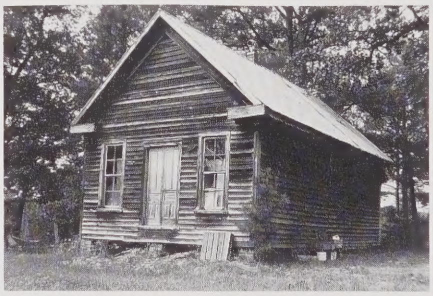
Walter T. and Beulah Gilliam House (Photo ca. 1920, courtesy of Nathan E. Paschal)



Center passage and front entry



Volumetric diagram of house (Measured by Nathan E. Paschal and the author; drawn by the author)



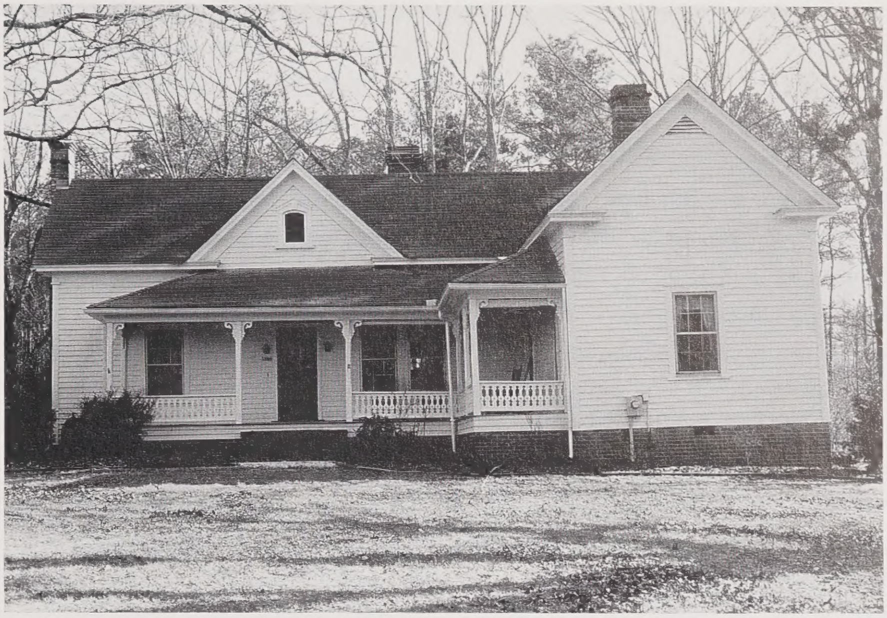
Gilliam Store

SPENCE KELLY FARM

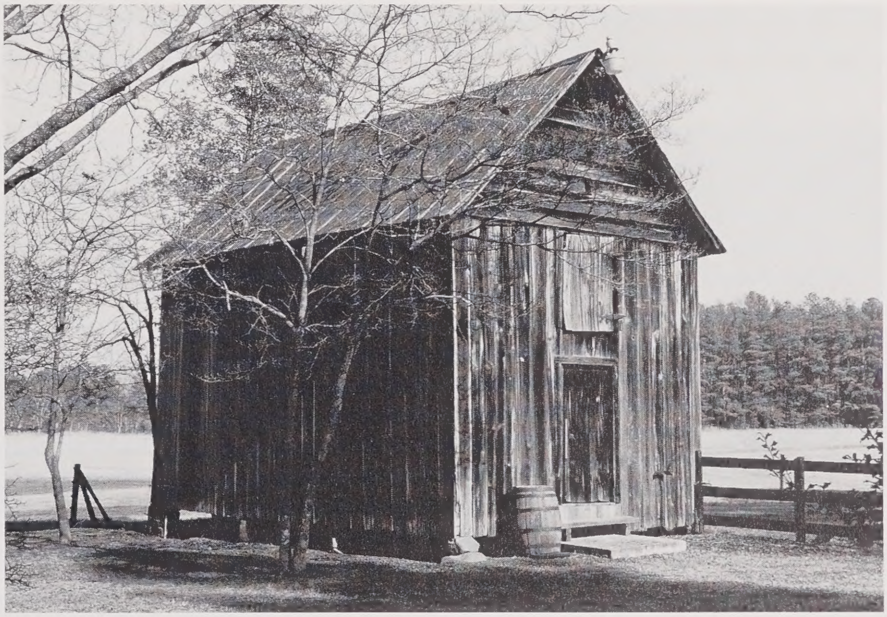
1509 Carthage Street (SR 1237)
Sanford
Ca. 1900

Spence Kelly was a noted seed-corn farmer during the early 1900s. His farm features a number of domestic and farm buildings dating to the 1800s and early 1900s. An unpaved fence-lined lane leads off Carthage Street through a stand of pines to the farmhouse, a one-story frame dwelling built between 1900 and 1910. The house has an asymmetrical front wing, front and rear porches with chamfered posts and sawn ornamentation, and a peaked window in a front gable. Behind the house are a gabled well shelter with a pulley and winch, a board-and-batten meat house, and a board-and-batten garage. Nearby are the ruins of a brownstone chimney with a brick-lined firebox—probably a remnant of an earlier dwelling or kitchen. To the south of this domestic complex are the farm buildings: a two-level frame granary, a slatted corncrib, and a saddle-notched log barn. Nearby is a 1920s concrete bridge that carries Carthage Street—once the course of US 1—across a small creek.

Owners: Albert M. and Evangeline K. Davis.
Sources: Norman Dineen; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses.*



Spence Kelly House



Granary

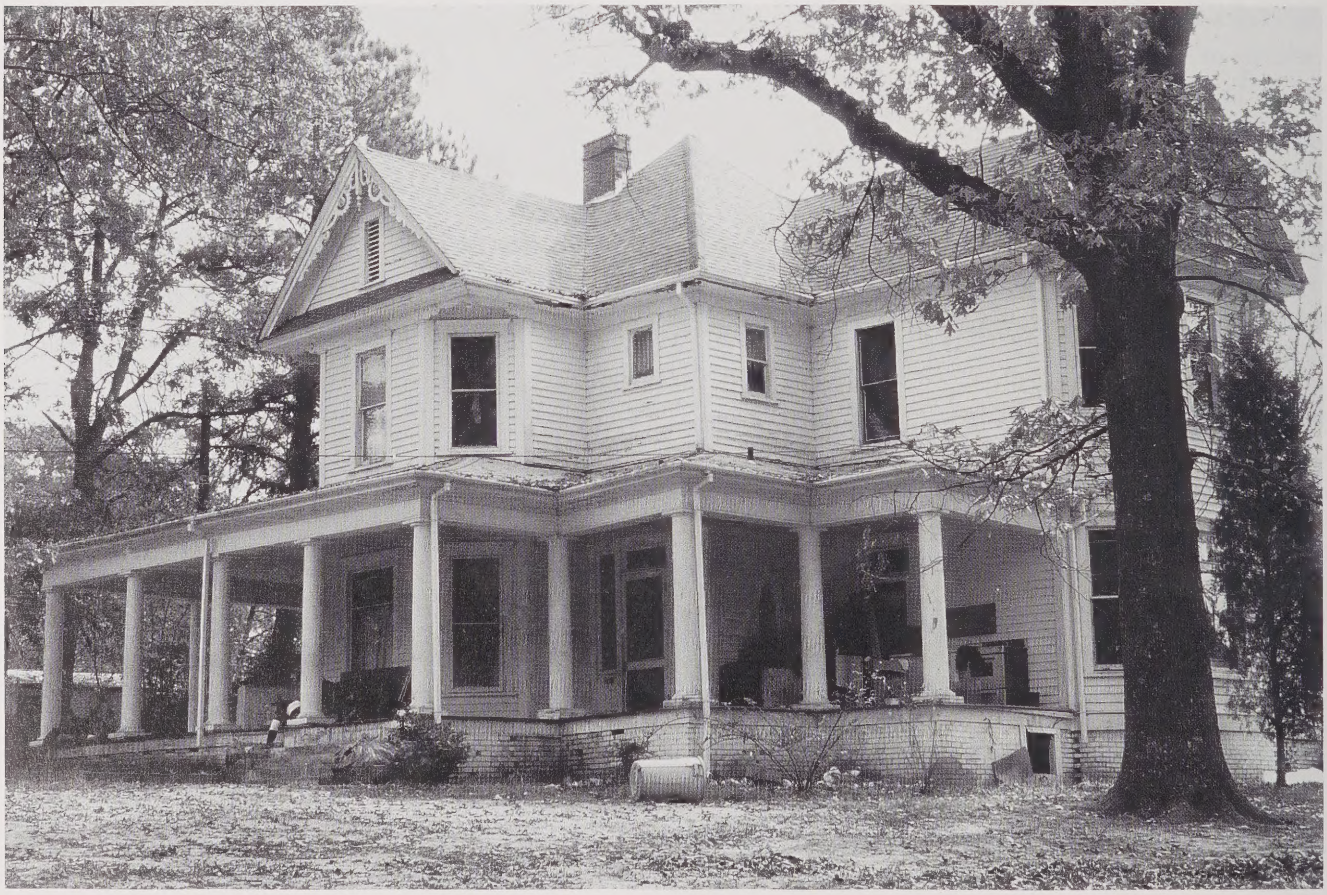
304 Oakwood Avenue
Sanford
Ca. 1900

Civil engineer Francis Deaton (b. ca. 1870) served several terms as Lee County surveyor. In December 1899, Deaton laid out lots and streets in the East Sanford neighborhood on the lands of A. P. McPherson, and soon afterward he hired Robert T. Walker to build this imposing Queen Anne–style house on a prominent corner lot at Third Street and Oakwood Avenue. Among Deaton's accomplishments were the 1894 survey of the ninety-acre Matthews property (which forms the core area of the East Sanford neighborhood) and the design of a planting scheme for the grounds of the Lee County Courthouse in 1913. Francis and his wife, Annie W. (b. ca. 1870), sold their house to W. R. (1886–1963) and Mabel Shuman Makepeace prior to the mid-1920s. Makepeace was an executive of his father J. B. Makepeace's Sanford Sash & Blind Company; he helped form the Makepeace Box & Lumber Company, established in 1917, and its successor, the Makepeace Millwork Company, incorporated in 1928.

The two-story frame Deaton House features a visually complex massing and roofline, milled detailing, and a rambling one-story porch supported by classical columns. Two-story bay windows feature one-over-one sashes with stained glass upper sashes, and the front entry, which has sidelights and a transom, is adjoined by an elliptical window. Inside, the house has plaster and beaded tongue-and-groove walls and ceilings, conventional colonetted mantels of the period, and an entry hall with a beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot, multipaneled doors, and a stair with turned balusters and square and turned newels.

Owners: Ronnie Earl and Bobbie L. Thorne.

Sources: Freda Dimmick Kriminger and Frances Sutton, longtime Sanford residents; *Sanford Express*, May 3, 1894; *Sanford Herald*, August 3, 1933, and September 5, 1970; Deaton, "Plan of Courthouse Grounds"; Lee County deeds; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; U.S. census schedules.



Francis and Annie W. Deaton House

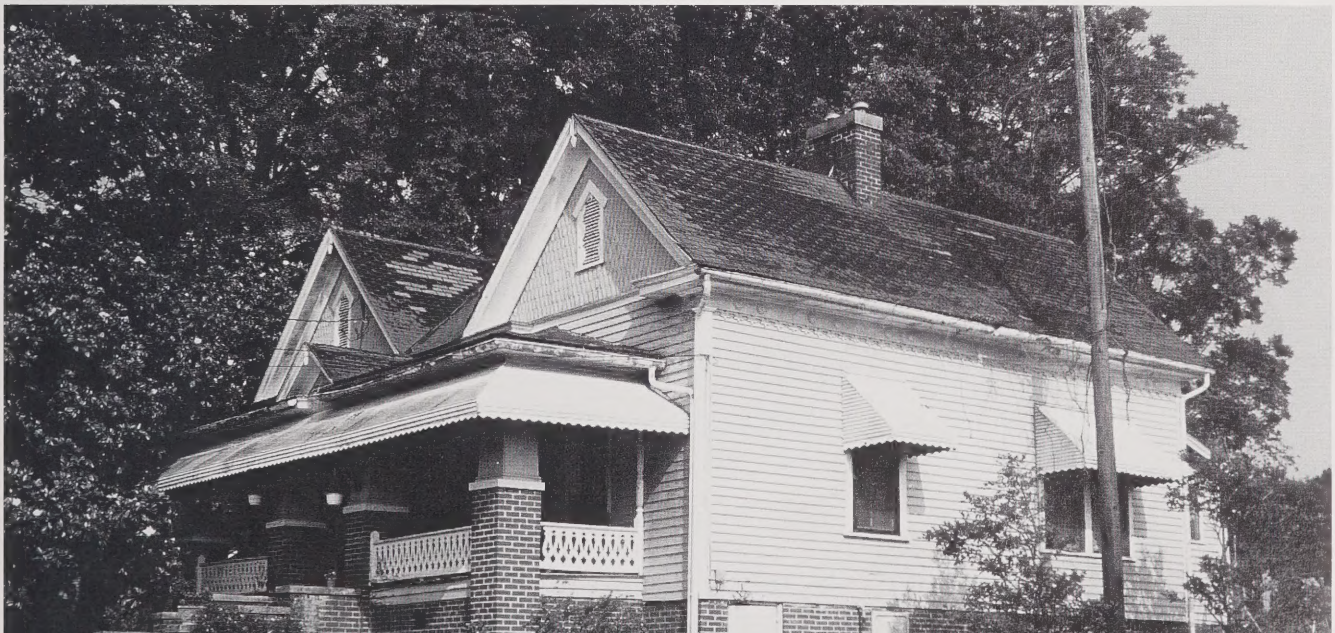
ISAAC H. AND ADA H. LUTTERLOH HOUSE

216 McIver Street
Sanford
1894

Dr. Isaac Henderson Lutterloh (d. 1955), a graduate of the Vanderbilt medical school, practiced medicine in Siler City before moving to Sanford in 1893. With his wife, Ada Hayden Lutterloh, the doctor had this one-story frame house built in 1894 for about $650; J. W. Brown may have been the builder. The Lutterlohs hired "Aunt Line" Bingham as a nurse and domestic servant in 1894; until her death in 1918, Bingham lived in a small log dwelling that formerly stood behind the main house. Lutterloh opened an office on Chatham Street in the 1890s, and he built the Lutterloh Building at 201 Chatham Street in 1909. He served as Sanford's postmaster and as a federal commissioner, and he was active in Republican politics.

The Lutterloh House is one of the more unusual Victorian residences in Sanford. The house features paired front gables embellished with sawtooth wood shingles and decorative peaked vents. Across the front extends a porch with an original roof structure above Craftsman brick-and-wood posts dating to the 1930s. Behind the house stands a frame wellhouse later made into a garage, and in the side yard is a small brick greenhouse that once featured a glass roof and was later converted into a meat house.

Sources: Hayden Lutterloh, Jr., former owner; Lutterloh Collection; Betts, "History of Lutterloh Clinic"; *Sanford Express*, April 19, 1994; Moore County Deed Book 13, p. 482; *Sanford History*; Sanborn maps.



Isaac H. and Ada H. Lutterloh House

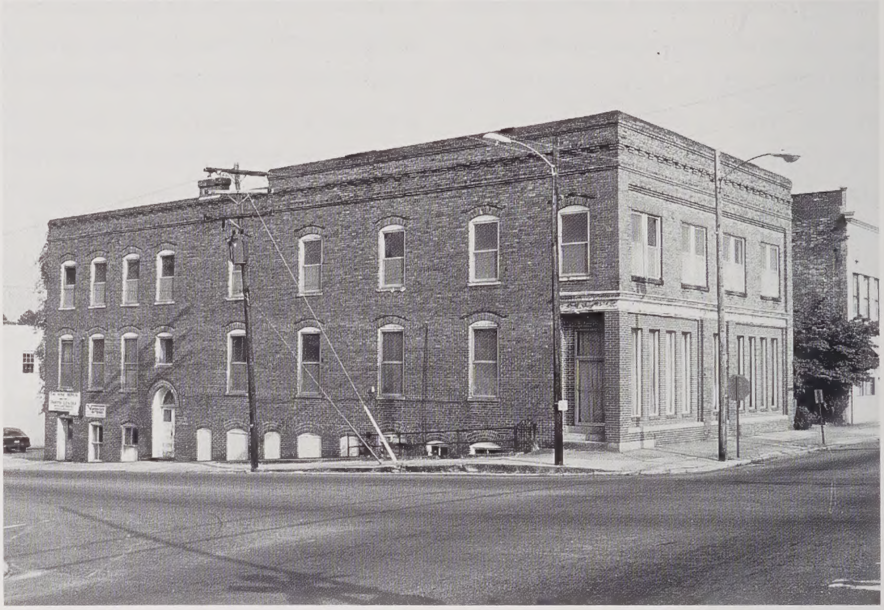
ISAAC H. LUTTERLOH BUILDING

201 Chatham Street
Sanford
1909

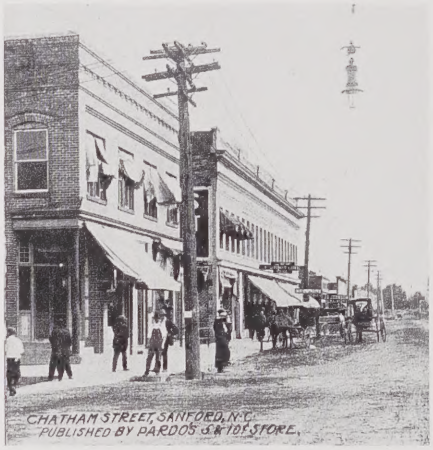
Owner: Hayden Lutterloh, Jr.
Sources: Hayden Lutterloh, Jr.; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; *Sanford Express*, June 30, 1905; *Sanford Herald*, March 9, 1933; Sanford Town Minutes, July 6, 1909; *Sanford History.*

In 1909, Dr. Isaac H. Lutterloh and the Rev. R. W. Bailey hired contractor J. W. Brown to build this two-story brick building. Bailey rented out the McIver Street side of the building, and Lutterloh used the southern half for his office and drugstore. The drugstore was run by Lutterloh's brother, Thomas Hefflin Lutterloh, and stocked jewelry, German glassware, porcelain, and toys in addition to pharmaceuticals (including Rings Dyspepsia Tablets). Drummers traveling on the railroads lodged in a hotel on the second story and took meals in a restaurant located in the basement. The Lutterloh Building was a favorite meeting place for the Sanford town government before the Municipal Building on Charlotte Avenue was completed in 1910. Later commercial tenants included the Peoples Bank, the Atlantic & Western Railroad (which maintained offices in the building until the 1950s), and the cabinetmaking shop of Charles Mann.

The Lutterloh Building has metal cornices above street-level shop fronts and under the parapet. Some shop fronts retain prism-glass transoms. Other features include a large round-arched entry on the McIver Street elevation and traces of painted signage. The interior was renovated in the 1950s, but hallways and rooms associated with the original hotel survive on the second floor.



Isaac H. Lutterloh Building


CHATHAM STREET, SANFORD, N.C.
PUBLISHED BY PARDOS 5 & 10¢ STORE.

View of Chatham Street showing the Lutterloh Building in the foreground (Photo ca. 1920)

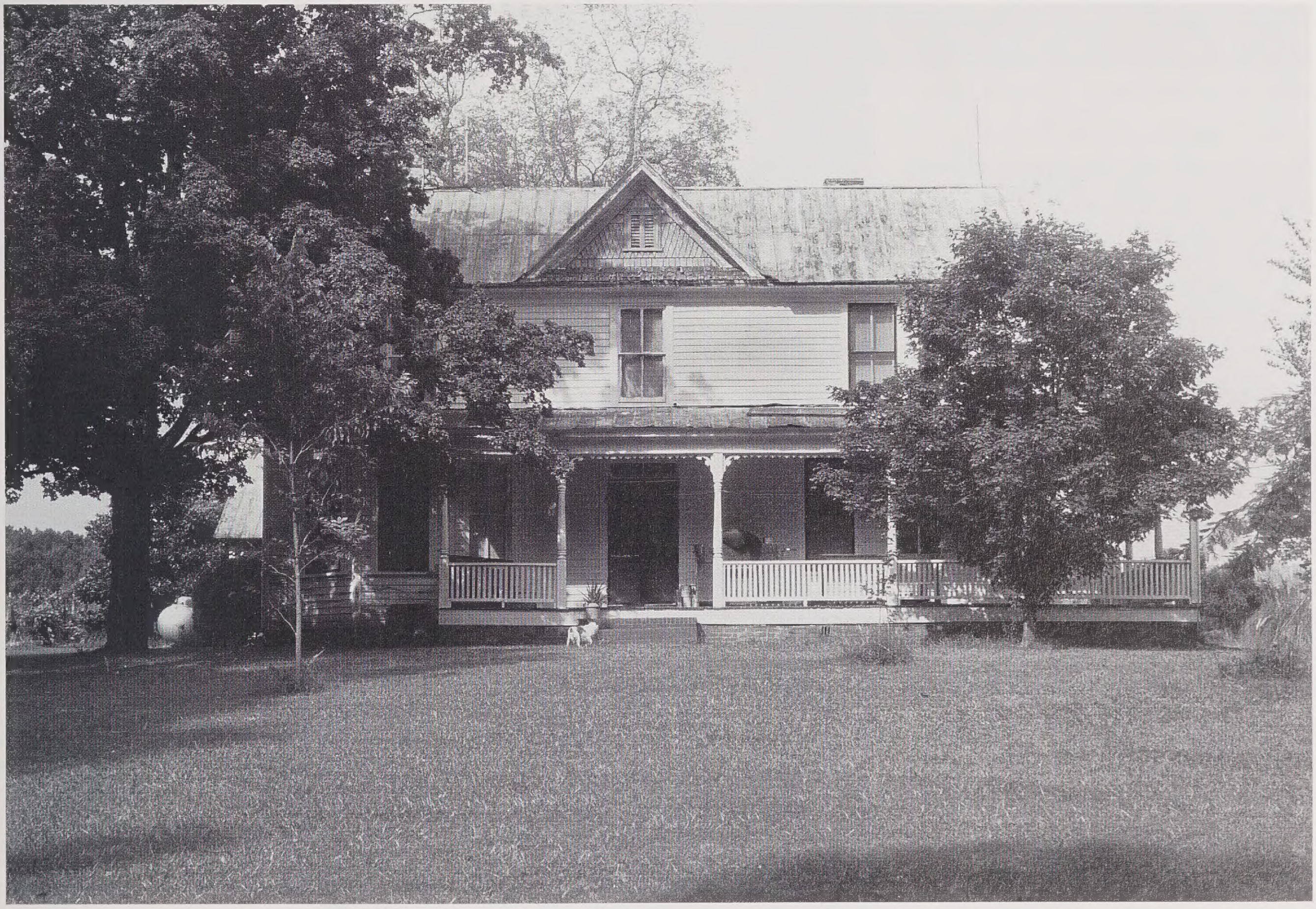
GEORGE TALLY HOUSE

5918 Carbonton Road (Route 42)
Carbonton vicinity
Ca. 1900

This two-story frame house was probably built for the Rev. George Tally and is one of the finest Victorian farmhouses in the Carbonton area. The house has a wraparound one-story porch with turned posts and sawn brackets and frieze trim. Other exterior features include a bay window, an ell, and gables sheathed in alternating bands of saw-toothed and square-edged wood shingles. Inside, the one-room-deep center-passage-plan house features colonetted mantels with mirrored overmantels in the downstairs and mantels with scalloped and incised decoration in the upstairs. The first-floor center passage has a beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot and an overhead spindle screen. Near the house are domestic and agricultural outbuildings, including a frame meat house that may be earlier than the house, as indicated by its boxed cornice, pegged sills, and straight-sawn rafters.

Owners: James Lewis and Doris B. Mashburn.

Source: Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian.



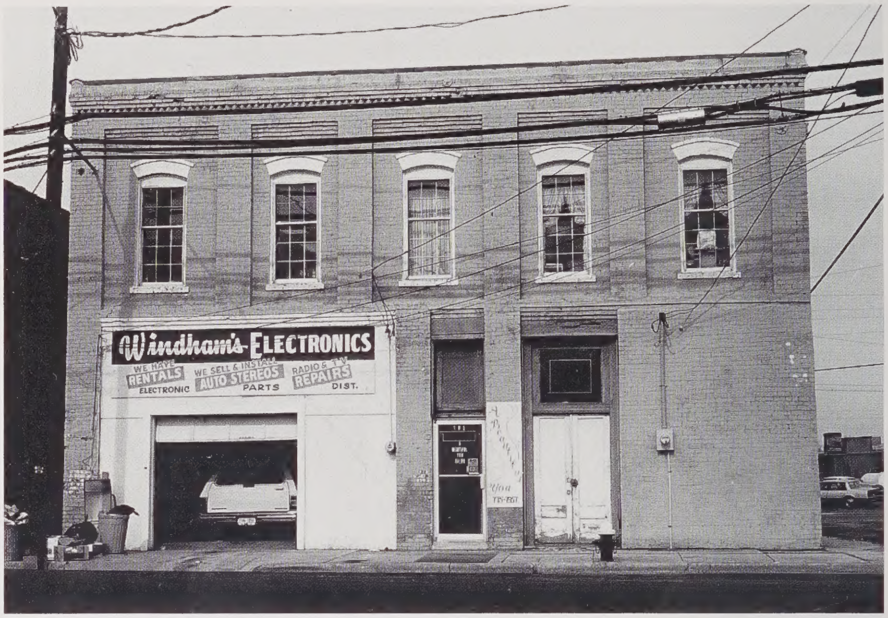
George Tally House

105 West Main Street
Jonesboro
Ca. 1900

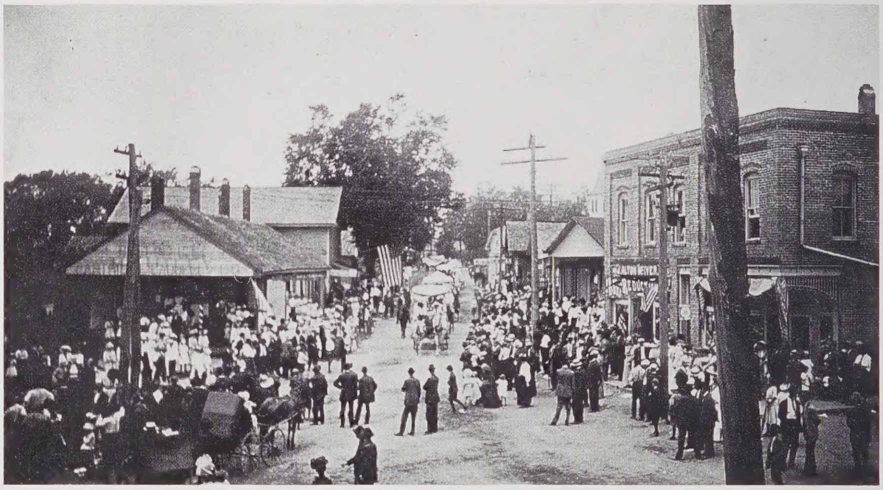
In the early years of Jonesboro's development, J. Alton McIver and James Dalrymple formed the dry goods store of McIver & Dalrymple. "They have for many years been regarded as among the most successful and substantial merchants in this part of the state," wrote a reporter in the 1890s. Yet during the economic downturn of the mid-1890s, the firm was unable to collect from its customers, and it failed in January 1895. McIver was back on his feet by March 1896, and about 1900 he apparently had this two-story brick store building constructed at the heart of Jonesboro. In addition to dry goods, the store sold drugs, schoolbooks, fertilizer, and plows. In 1907, McIver was described as a "leading merchant and cotton buyer at Jonesboro."

The McIver Building originally fronted on Trade Street; when Main Street replaced Trade Street as Jonesboro's principal business street in the early 1900s, the building was reoriented to face Main. Later, a metal facade was attached to the Main Street elevation, but the second story of the original Trade Street front was left largely untouched. The Trade Street front is divided into five recessed bays capped with a corbeled and houndstooth cornice. In the bays are segmental-arched six-over-nine-sash windows, and segmental-arched windows and walled-up door openings appear on other elevations. In the early 1900s, a bank occupied the southeast corner of the building, entered through an angled and recessed doorway (now altered). Early features survive in the second-story interior, including a stair with turned newels and balusters, office doors with textured glass panels and milled surrounds, and beaded tongue-and-groove ceilings.

Owner: Jack Dean.
Sources: Jack Dean; Mrs. Hosea M. Jackson, longtime area resident; Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; *Sanford Express*, January 17, 1895, and March 6 and 13, 1896; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; Jonesboro Historical Society collection; Sanborn maps.



J. Alton McIver Building, Trade Street elevation



Trade Street with McIver Building on right, photo early 1900s (Courtesy of the Jonesboro Historical Society)

144 East Chisholm Street
Sanford
Ca. 1900

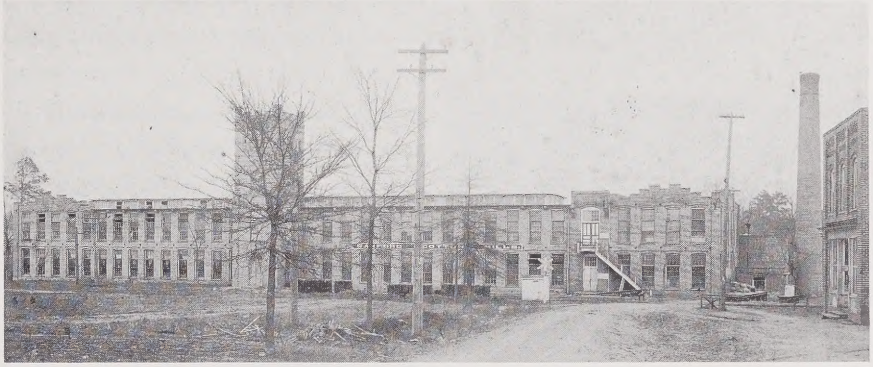
Sanford Cotton Mills, incorporated in 1899, began construction of a sprawling factory complex along the Seaboard tracks downtown in 1900. Contractor J. W. Brown and his son Vesper may have been the builders of the mill. (They later constructed other structures at the site.) By 1907, the mill employed between 160 and 175 operatives, and it housed 11,000 spindles and four hundred looms in 1908; by 1935, the workforce numbered 250, and it was claimed that the mill supported one-fifth of Sanford's population. Edgar M. Underwood, Sr., a county clerk of court, served as the mill's secretary and treasurer for many years, and during the 1940s, the mill was owned and operated by Warren Williams, longtime mayor of Sanford. From the mid-1950s to the late 1960s, the building was leased by the Roberts Company and used for machinery assembly.

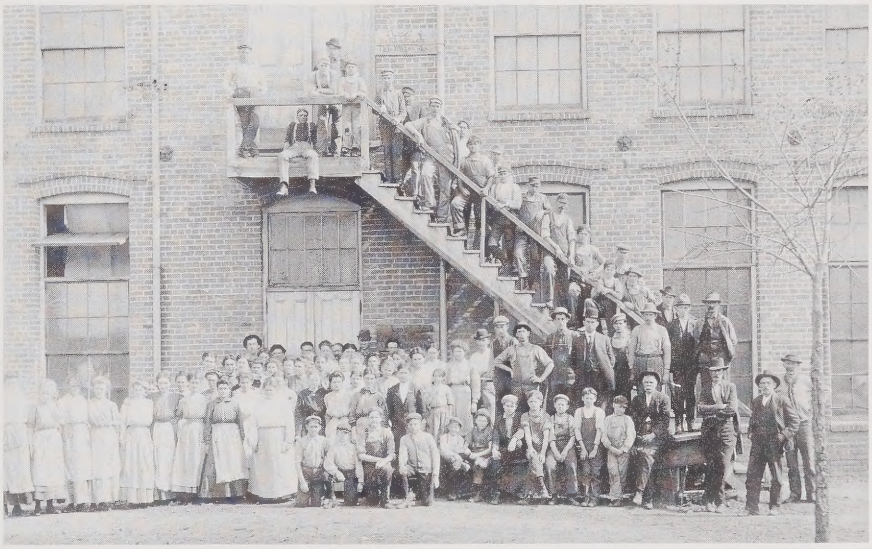
The mill features a two-story brick building that originally measured 325 feet long. Ranks of tall, segmental-arched, triple-hung windows light the loom rooms. At the building's midpoint rises a four-story elevator tower, the upper half of which has banded brickwork, corbeling, and decorative arched windows. Other features include loading docks, painted signage, and a smokestack.

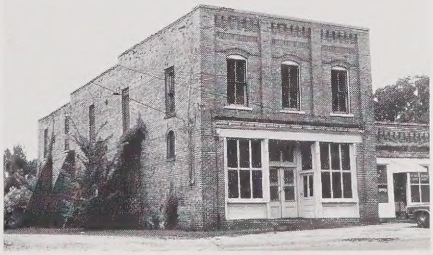
Across the tracks from the mill proper stands the company store, a two-story brick building dating to about 1900. A 1905 advertisement for the store listed men's suits, ladies' shoes, and sewing machines among its stock. The store—known as the Mill Store Company after 1920—retains its original display windows, an inset entry, and segmental-arched windows under a parapet with decorative corbeling and houndstooth courses. Against the west side of the building is a one-story brick commercial addition of slightly later date. The store was gutted by fire in recent years.

Owner: E. M. Williams.

Sources: E. M. Williams; Jimmy Haire, Lee County historian; Robert E. Pomeranz; *Sanford History*; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; *Sanford Express*, June 30, 1905, and February 25, 1908; *Sanford Herald*, December 19, 1967; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1.


Sanford Cotton Mills, photo early 1900s


Mill employees, photo early 1900s

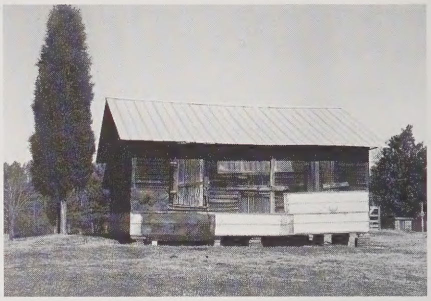

Sanford Cotton Mills Store, photo 1992

524 Lower Moncure Road (SR 1002)
Sanford vicinity
1901

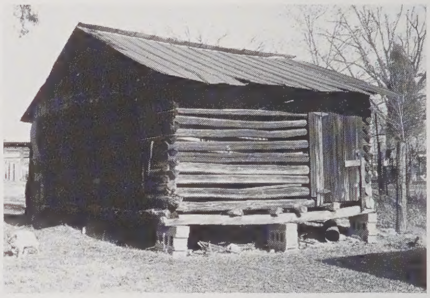
More individual structures stand on the Wicker Farm than on any other historic farm in Lee County. The farm's earliest known owner was Edward Wicker, who was born in a house on the property (probably in the mid-1800s). Edward's son, John Wesley Wicker, inherited the farm and an initial fifty acres and lived with his wife, Matilda Jane Thomas Wicker, in a small weatherboarded frame dwelling. When John died of tuberculosis in 1901, Matilda was told she should move out of the old house to avoid catching the disease. Consequently, Matilda hired Robert T. Walker to build the present main house on the property. This one-story frame dwelling has a front porch supported by turned posts, a gable roof with a front gable, and an ell.

Near the 1901 house are a detached kitchen (the presently occupied dwelling on the property), a smokehouse, a car shed, a board-and-batten storage shed, a collection of small chicken houses, and a triangular chicken coop. In front of the main house extend beds planted with azaleas and crape myrtles. Other buildings on the farm include a saddle-notched log barn and a saddle-notched log corncrib, a collapsed log building, frame stables, and the house abandoned in 1901, now used for hay storage.

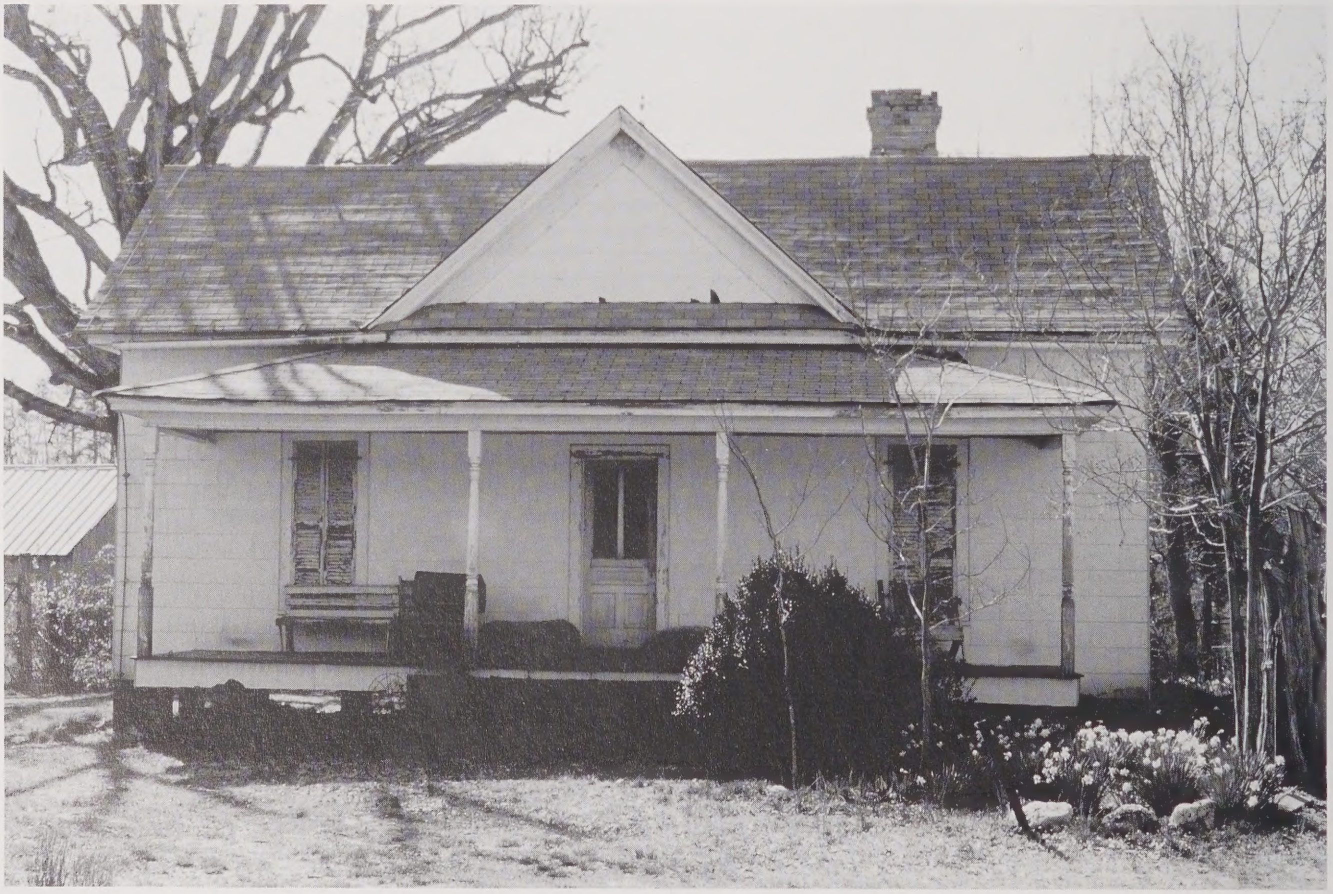
Owner: Minnie Mae Talley.
Source: Minnie Mae Talley.



Earlier house



Corncrib



Matilda J. Wicker House (Photo by Edwin Patterson)

COOL SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

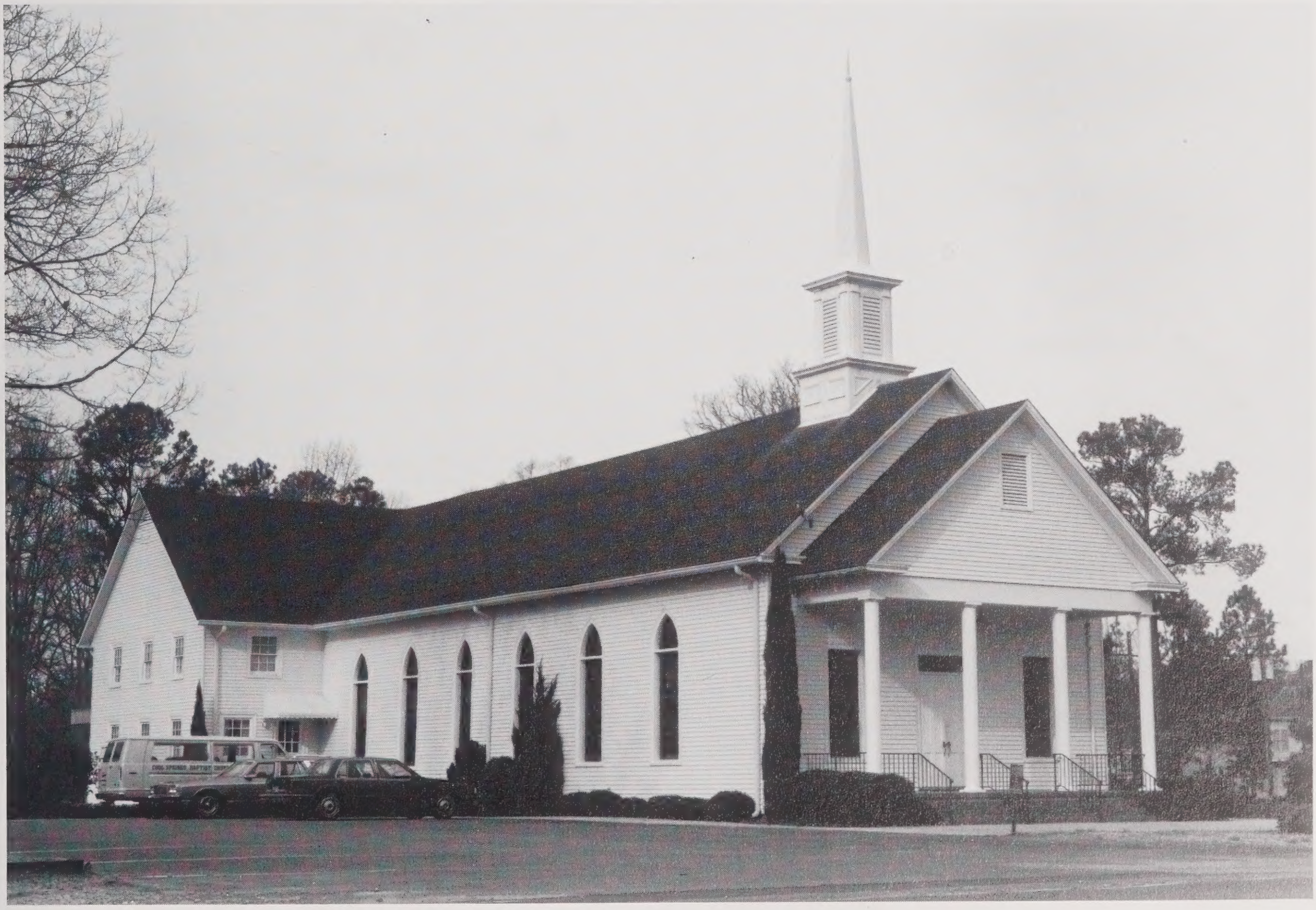
1313 Cool Springs Road (SR 1325)
Sanford vicinity
1905

Cool Springs Church was organized in 1848 by Elders Enoch Crutchfield and William C. Patterson. Patterson served as the first preacher, when four women and three men split off from Mays Chapel in Chatham County to form the original congregation. The church joined the Sandy Creek Baptist Association in 1855, and in 1860 original church member and trustee John J. Gilmore donated several acres for a church site. (Gilmore's deed refers to "the Spring above the Pool.") A "temporary arbor" served as the first church; a more permanent frame or log building was apparently built in the 1850s or 1860s. This church was destroyed by a tornado in April 1905, and the present building was completed by October of the same year. This frame, nave-form building was substantially remodeled during the mid- and late twentieth century, and it now features a front portico, a spire, lancet-arched side windows, and a two-story Sunday school addition to the rear. Nearby stand a two-story brick educational building and a brick ranch house that serves as a pastorium.

Across Cool Springs Road is a large cemetery with many notable markers and tombs. Some of the older headstones date to the 1850s and 1860s and were produced by the George Lauder works of Fayetteville. Most of these Lauder monuments are marble; several similar headstones are carved from indigenous brownstone. Sanford's own George A. Davis carved a lancet-shaped marble marker for W. D. Dowd (d. 1877), and the cemetery also features approximately a dozen brick barrel-vaulted tombs dating from the 1910s through the 1950s.

Sources: Sanford Express, March 20, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, July 16, 1934; Moore County Deed Book 23, p. 135, and Deed Book 24, p. 679.

Barrel-vaulted tombs in cemetery



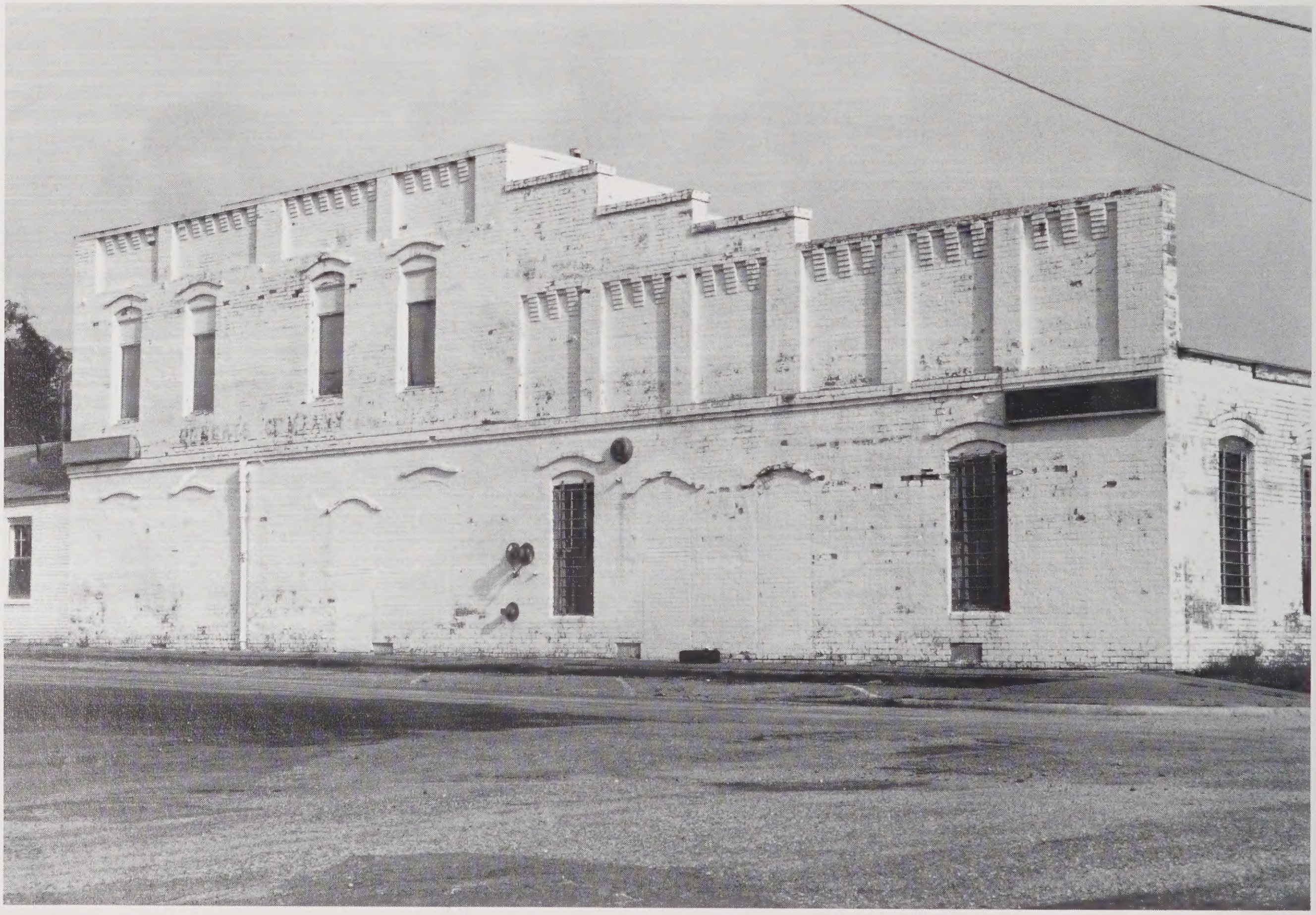
Cool Springs Baptist Church

Market Street and Maple Avenue
Sanford
Ca. 1905

The Moffitt Iron Works Company began in 1888 as the Moffitt Brothers foundry and machine shops, operating at first out of the former Buffalo Smoking Tobacco Factory in Sanford. About 1900, the firm constructed this brick factory on Maple Avenue, where it produced "everything for the mill or factory." Moffitt specialized in sawmill equipment, and in 1925 it claimed to have sold seven hundred sawmills in North Carolina and other southern states.

The one-story section of the facility functioned as the machine shop, and the smaller two-story section contained offices. Adjacent to an Atlantic & Western Railroad siding that formerly extended along the east side of the plant stood the pattern shop, coke house, and two cupolas (or forges, not in use by 1908). The main factory building has segmental-arched door and window openings and high parapets with corbeled and recessed panels. Large brick and metal-sided warehouses and assembly plants were added to the property during the mid-twentieth century.

Sources: News and Observer, July 3, 1907; *Premium List . . . Second Lee County Fair*; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District;" Worth Pickard, Lee County historian; Railroad House Collection; Sanborn maps.



Moffitt Iron Works

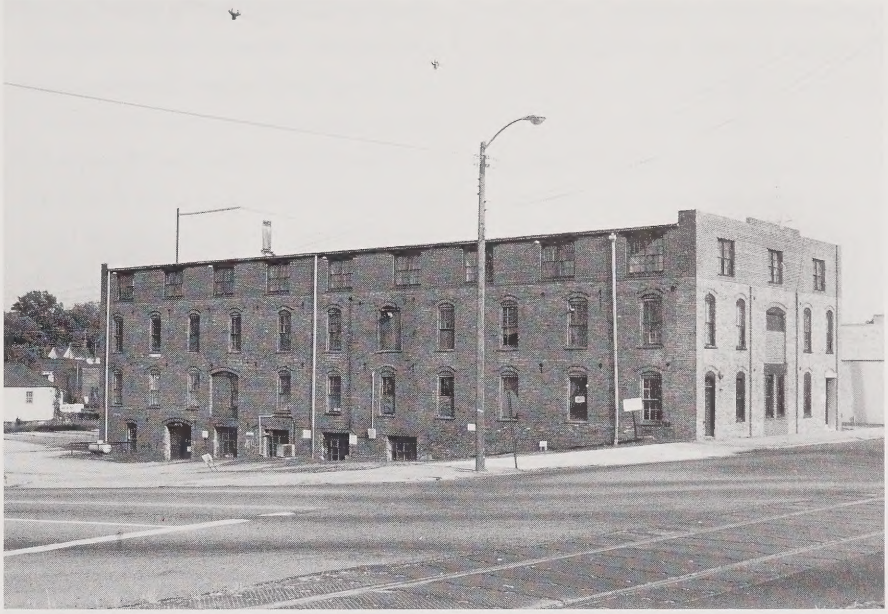
SANFORD BUGGY COMPANY

115 Chatham Street
Sanford
1907

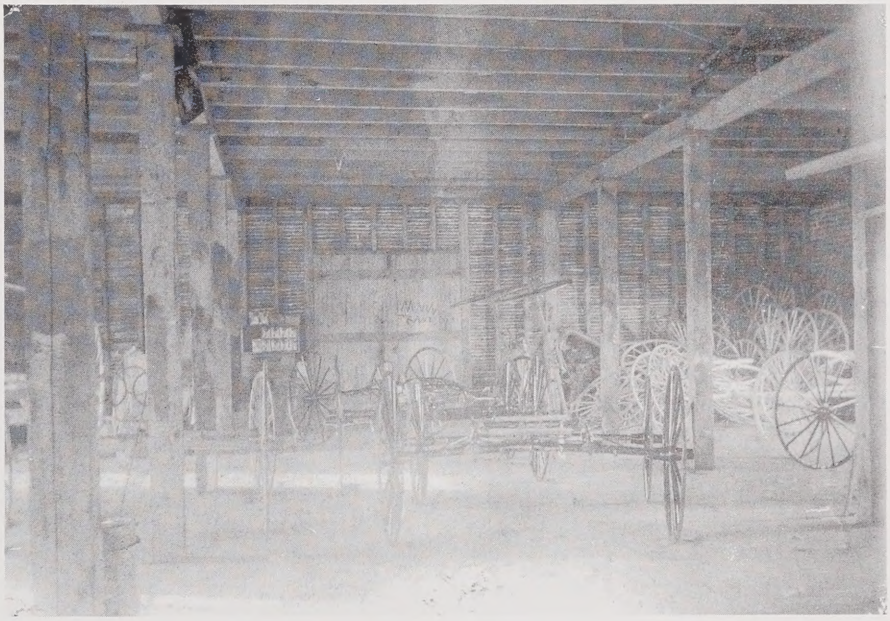
Employees of the Tyson Buggy Factory in Carthage formed the Sanford Buggy Company in 1907 and built this brick factory the same year. Superintendent William A. Maness oversaw the construction of the factory, which was owned and operated by the employees. In addition to buggies, the plant manufactured light two-seated vehicles and one-horse rockaways. About 1924, the building was converted for use as the Brown Buick automobile showroom and garage. In the early 1940s, the Sanford Furniture Company acquired the building, and in 1944 the company added the present third story, where it manufactured wooden bumpers for tugboats used in the war effort. After the war, the Sanford Furniture Company returned to its main line of business—making bed frames and headboards. Cascade Fibers moved in about 1970 and now produces table linens at the plant.

The three-story brick building originally stood two stories in height on Chatham Street, with a full basement to the rear and a hip roof with multiple gabled dormers. The building has segmental-arched door and window openings and star-shaped tie-rod caps. Early photographs of the interior show unsubdivided work areas with regularly spaced wood posts supporting exposed ceiling joists. An elevator was installed in 1944.

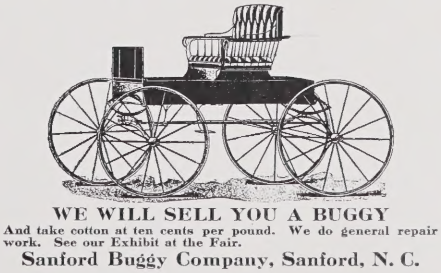
Owner: Robert E. Pomeranz.
Sources: Robert E. Pomeranz; *Sanford History*; *Sanford Express*, September 27, 1907; *Sanford Herald*, May 22, 1933, and April 3, 1959; Railroad House Collection.



Sanford Buggy Company



Interior (Photo early 1900s, courtesy of Hal Tysinger)



WE WILL SELL YOU A BUGGY
And take cotton at ten cents per pound. We do general repair work. See our Exhibit at the Fair.
Sanford Buggy Company, Sanford, N. C.

Advertisement, 1914

MIKE AND CARTHENIA H. ATKINS HOUSE

752 Cotten Road (SR 1403)
Cumnock vicinity
1908

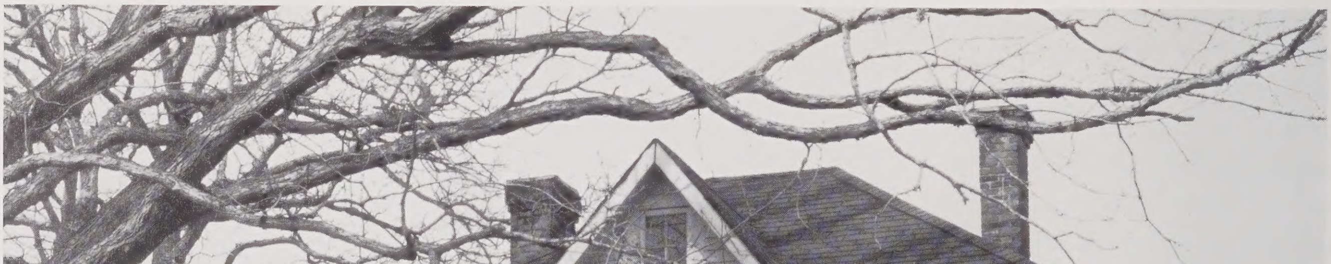
Mike Atkins was born into slavery in 1840 at an unknown location in North Carolina; after the Civil War he moved to the Cumnock vicinity and began to practice brickmasonry. Atkins executed the brickwork for a number of buildings in Sanford, including the 1901 Commercial Building. In 1903, he purchased 25.5 acres near Cumnock—a portion of the old Evander McIver plantation—and on Christmas Eve 1908, Mike, his wife Carthenia Hill Atkins, and their family moved into this recently completed one-story frame house. Atkins retired from construction work and took up farming on his property, growing corn and cotton. His son, Eugene Atkins, inherited the property after the death of his parents.

The Atkins House has a two-room-deep plan, an ell, and a hip roof. On the front of the roof, in place of the typical low-pitched decorative gable, is a steep gable with a tall two-over-two-sash window. The front parlor, entered directly from the outside, has a low wainscot with vertical beaded tongue-and-groove sheathing and a late Victorian mantel with chamfered pilasters and a peaked frieze profile. Near the house are a frame garage, a frame barn, and a small fieldstone storm shelter with a poured concrete roof built by Eugene Atkins in the 1950s or 1960s. Every spring, the yard in front of the Atkins House blooms with daffodils and pink hyacinths that were planted in 1908.

Owners: Frances E. and Mabel W. Atkins.

Sources: Mabel Atkins; Lee County Deed Book 2, p. 440.

Storm shelter



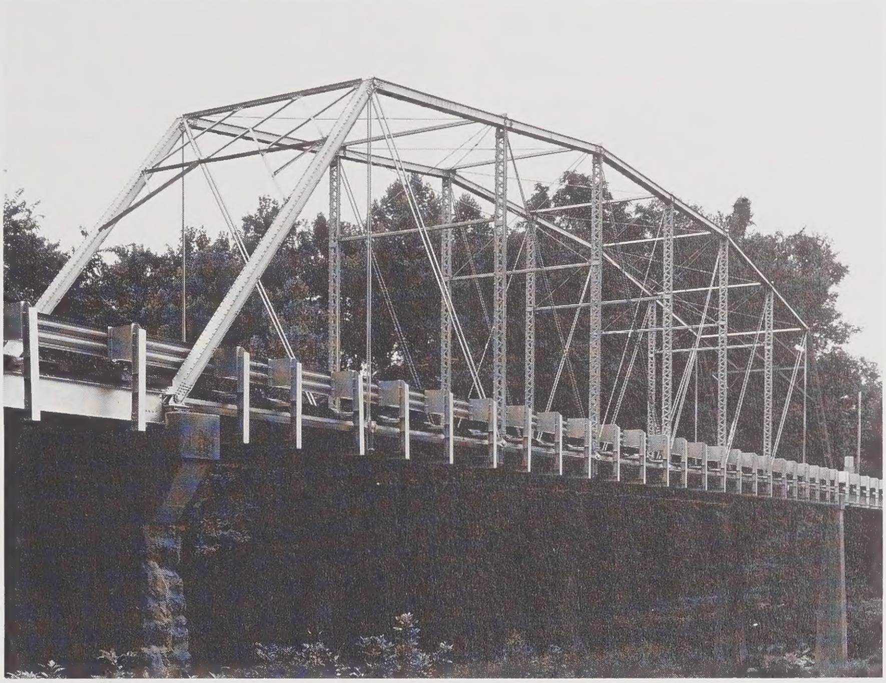
Mike Atkins House

Cumnock Road (SR 1400) crossing of
Deep River
Cumnock vicinity
Ca. 1908

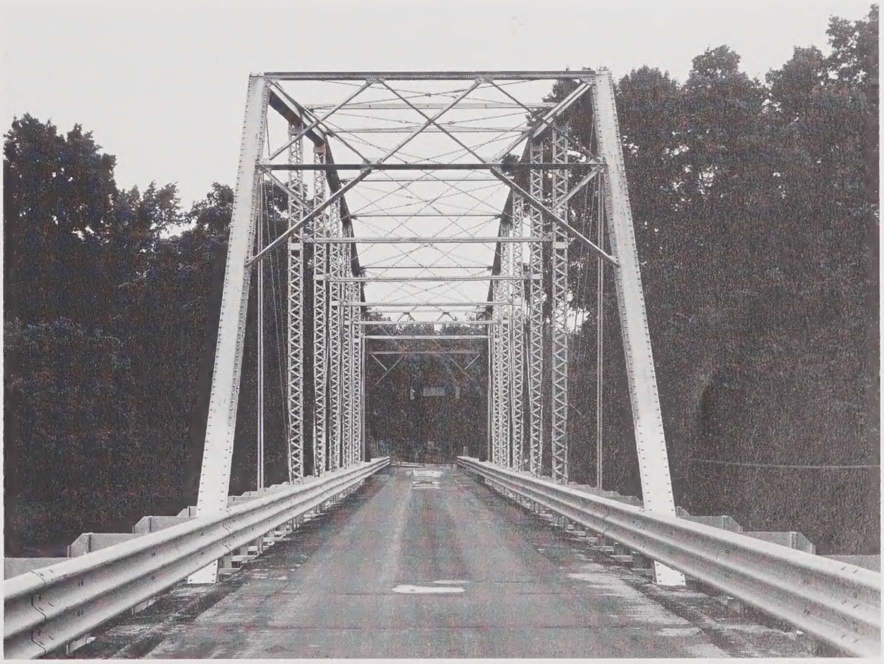
Historic metal truss bridges in Lee County stand on the Norfolk Southern rail line where it crosses the Cape Fear River at McKay Island and the Deep River at Cumnock, but the Cumnock Bridge is the county's only metal truss highway bridge that has survived to the present. The Camelback truss bridge (so called for its humped profile) once crossed the Cape Fear in Harnett County and was probably built about 1908. Part of the bridge collapsed in 1930, and the state made plans to replace the entire structure, but John H. Kennedy of Cumnock convinced the state to move one span to Cumnock (in 1932) to replace a wooden bridge that burned in the late 1920s.

The graceful truss section extends 160 feet in length and joins to steel and treated timber approach spans for a total length of 365 feet. A stone pier at the north (Chatham County) end of the span also supported the earlier bridge at the location. The steel bridge members are stamped "CAMBRIA," indicating that they were manufactured by the Cambria Works in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. In the early 1990s, a concrete span was built beside the Cumnock Bridge, which was subsequently acquired by the Deep River Park Association for use as a public park.

Sources: Margaret J. Ellis and Michael Southern; "Truss Bridge No. 155"; Osborn and Selden-Sturgill, *Architectural Heritage of Chatham County*; Woolpert, "Draft Preliminary Case Report for the Replacement of Chatham County Bridge No. 155"; *Sanford Herald*, December 3, 1931; *Chatham News and Record*, April 2, 1992.



Cumnock Bridge (Photo by Diane Davis, 1979, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



Cumnock Bridge (Photo by Diane Davis, 1979, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

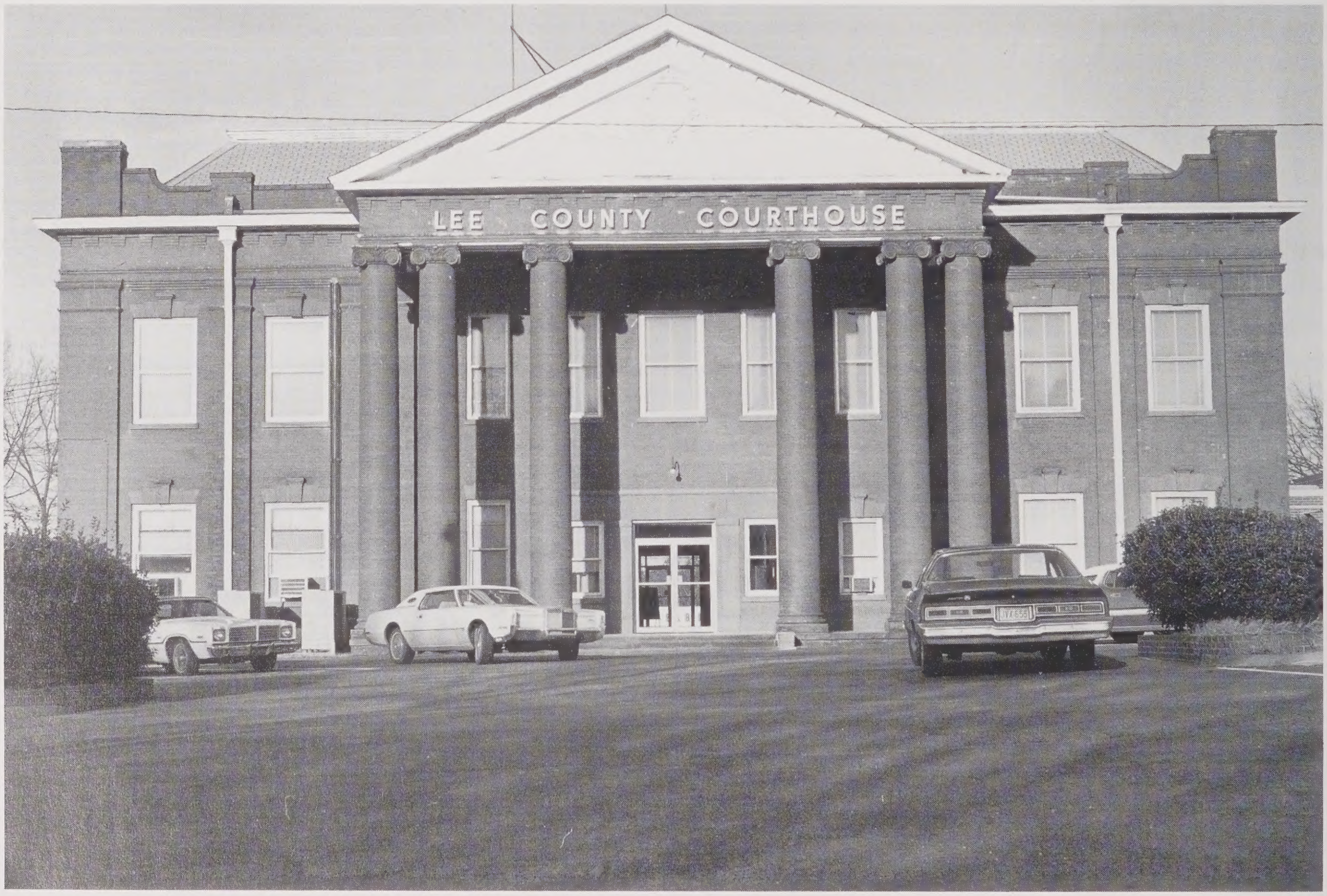
1408 South Horner Boulevard
Sanford
1908

After winning the battle to create Lee County in 1907, the new county's citizens set about building a courthouse on a rural site midway between Sanford and Jonesboro. For many years the Lee County courthouse was the only one in the state with a Rural Free Delivery address.

The courthouse was built in 1908 according to plans prepared by Wilmington architect Charles McMillen. McMillen was chosen after considerable controversy. Originally, the county commissioners were convinced by Sanford attorney Duncan E. McIver to choose plans prepared by an architect named Newman. According to one account, Newman's design was "condemned by nearly every competent architect or contractor," and when it came out that Newman and McIver had connections with the same construction company, the original scheme was dropped in favor of McMillen's plans.

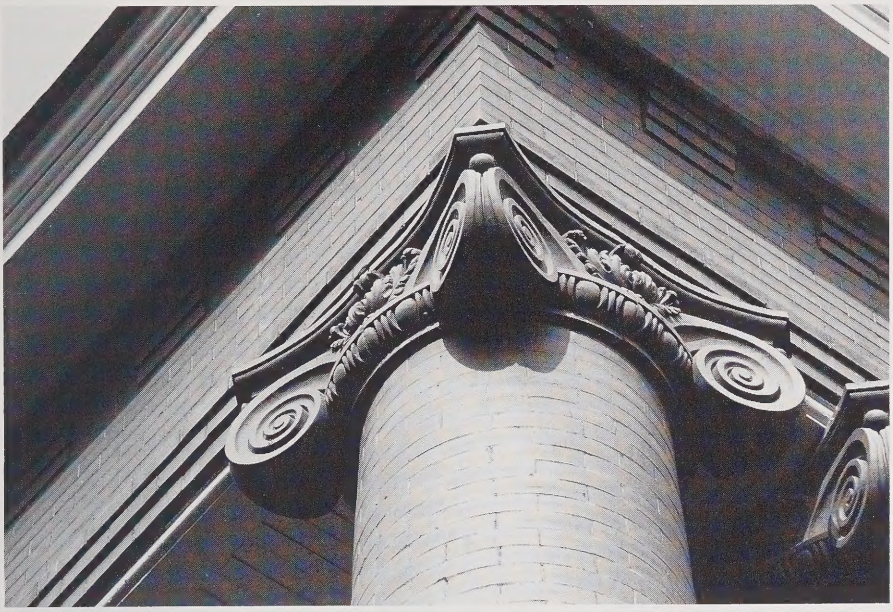
Like most North Carolina courthouses of the early twentieth century, the two-story brick building is Classical Revival in design, with a cruciform plan, projecting front and rear porticos, a heavy entablature, and a central dome. The porticos are supported by brick columns with bases and Ionic capitals carved from local brownstone, and their pediments contain cartouches and foliated tendrils. Under the north portico is the main entry to the building, emphasized by decorative flanking windows and an arched transom with the scales of justice painted in gold, all within a brownstone surround. The walls of the building are defined by two-story pilasters with brownstone capitals. The pilasters visually carry the broad frieze, embellished with dentil-like corbeling that underlines the cornice and parapet. At the top of the composition, a small dome rises from a square base that was originally bordered by a metal cresting.

Inside, two axial hallways meet at a central lobby. For a time, the lobby contained the Virginia Dare mural that formerly hung in the post office at 226 Carthage Street in Sanford. (This mural was recently placed in storage.) Extending from the southeast end of the courthouse is a one-story

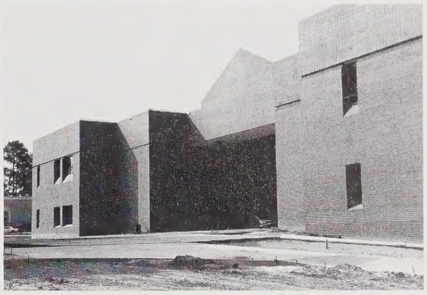


Lee County Courthouse (Photo 1977, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History) brick wing that was added in 1956, and behind the courthouse is a two-story brick annex completed in 1994. Off the northwest end formerly stood the jail, a two-story Flemish-bond brick building dating to the same period as the courthouse, with dark header bricks, a one-story porch, and a corbeled cornice.

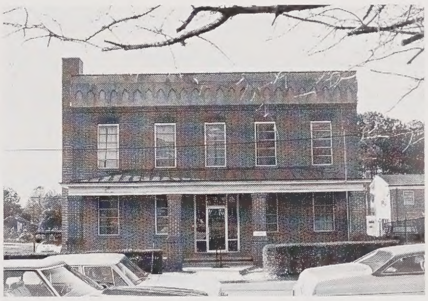
Sources: "Lee County Courthouse"; Michael, "Rise of the Architect in North Carolina"; *Sanford History*; *Sanford Express*, June 5, 1908; *Sanford Herald*, April 3, 1959.



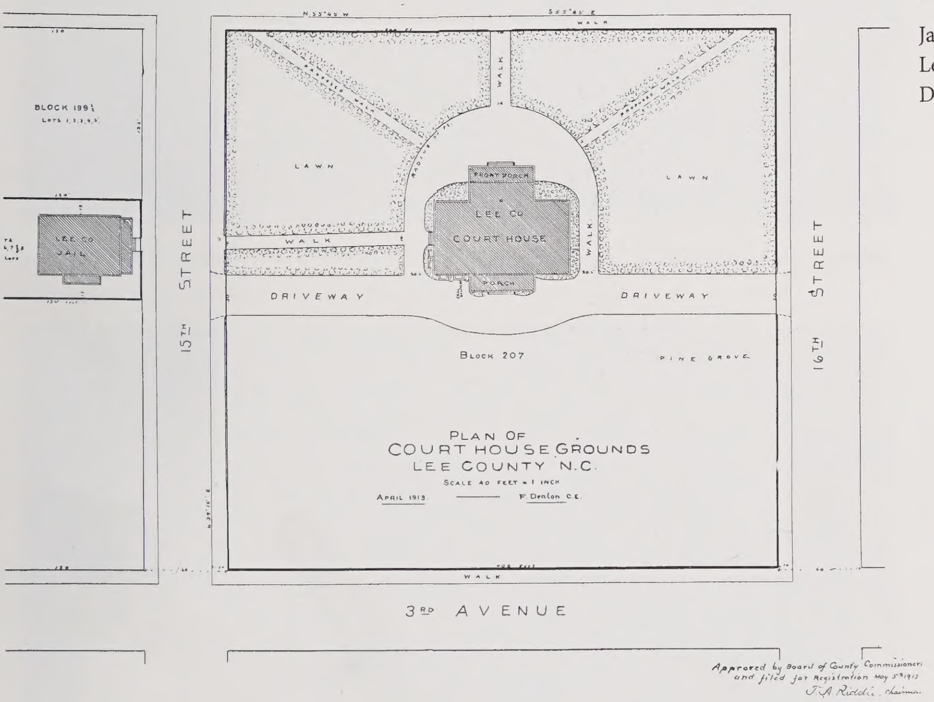
Capital, north portico



Annex, photo spring of 1994



Jail, demolished in 1995 (Photo by Mary A. Lee, 1977, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



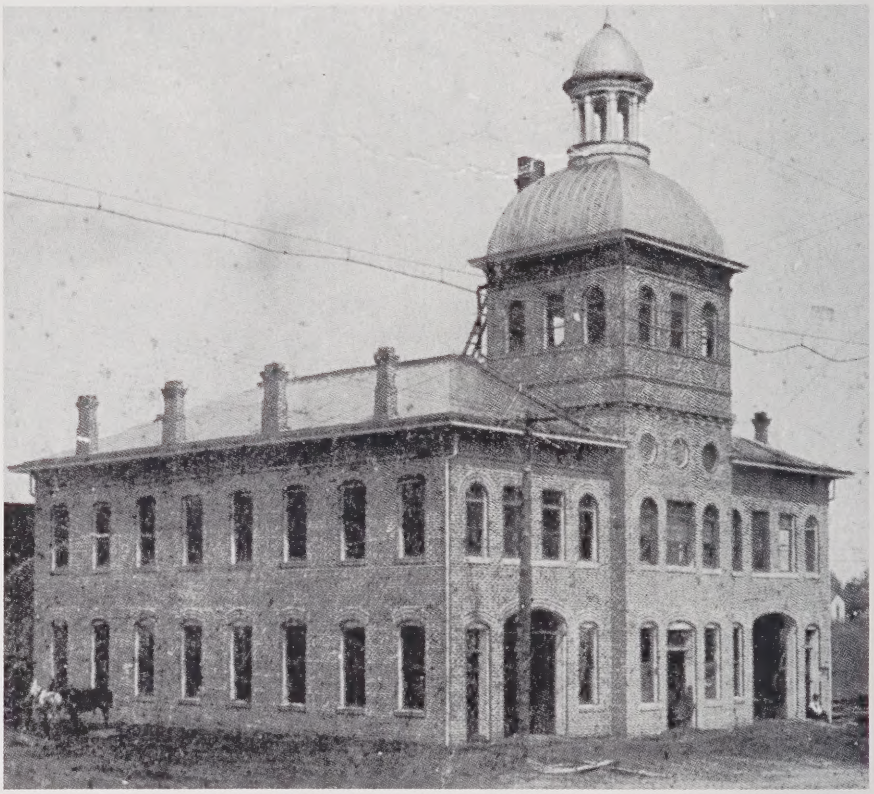
1913 plan of courthouse grounds

143 Charlotte Avenue
Sanford
1909–10

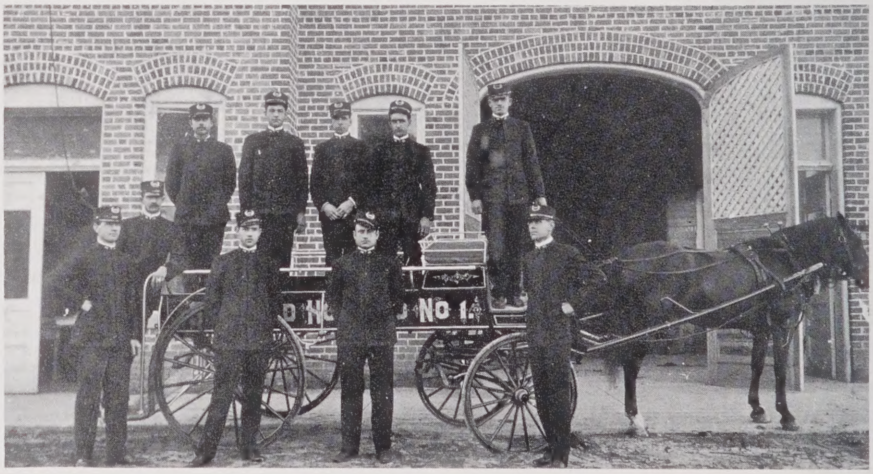
Sanford's rapid growth at the turn of the twentieth century expanded the duties of its municipal government; consequently, in 1907, the search began for a town hall site. In May of that year, Greensboro architect R. B. Waddell offered to design the building, but it is not known whether his offer was accepted. After two years of negotiation and planning, the town decided to build an office building and fire hall on the town spring lot on Charlotte Avenue. Local contractor Joe W. Stout began work on the two-story building in November 1909 and had it essentially finished by the spring of 1910. Stout apparently employed Robert T. Walker as his site manager, and he used bricks supplied by the Goldston Brick Company. In addition to providing meeting space for official town business, the building's upstairs assembly hall served groups and individuals as diverse as the stockholders of the Edwards Motor Car Company, the Lee County Co-operative Marketing Association, and gubernatorial candidates, and in 1915 the Sanford public school system used the upstairs as classroom space. The municipal building also served as the home of Sanford's volunteer fire department, which in 1934 set a world record in an event known as the chemical race; a year later the department set a world record in the water race.

The front elevation of the Sanford Municipal Building is dominated by a three-story stair tower with circular windows, corbeling, belt courses, a domelike roof, and a circular lantern/belfry supported by round columns set against arcading. Other features include a metal-sheathed hip roof with a reticulated balustrade, segmental-arched and square-headed window and door openings, and a one-story brick wing added in 1950. The street front once had arched fire truck (or fire wagon) doors; these have since been filled in.

Sources: Sanford Town Minutes; *Sanford Express*, January 1, February 8, and September 5 and 19, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, March 9, 1933, March 16 and May 16, 1936, and July 27, 1950; *Sanford History*; Sanborn maps.



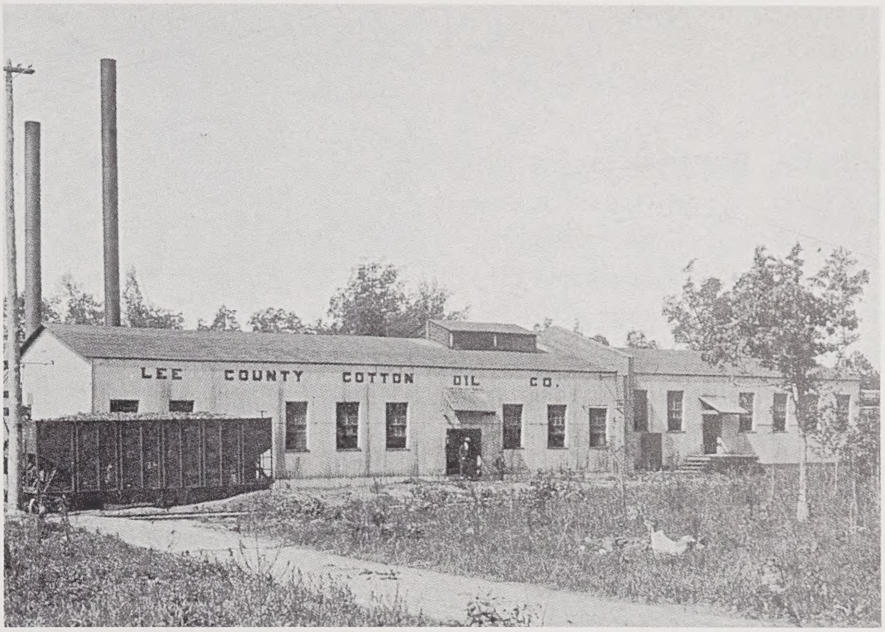
Sanford Municipal Building, photo ca. 1910



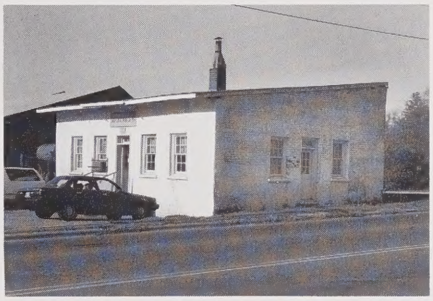
Sanford Hose Company No. 1, photo ca. 1910

SAPONA MILLS (LEE COUNTY COTTON OIL COMPANY)

311A East Rose Street
Sanford
1909



Lee County Cotton Oil Company, 1915 (Courtesy of Jane S. Barringer)



Boiler room/office

Sapona Mills, Inc., had its origins as the Lee County Cotton Oil Company, established by J. R. Rives, J. P. Coggins, and Paul J. Barringer, Sr., in 1909. The facility was served by a siding on the Atlantic & Western Railroad (the siding was named Monroe), and it produced fertilizer, cottonseed oil, cottonseed meal, lint, and soybean and peanut oils and meals. The annual output of oil in 1925 was 384,000 gallons, produced by thirty employees. In 1928, the name of the company was changed to Sapona Mills, Inc., and during the heyday of radio the mill aired advertising jingles such as "Little pigs think, big pigs know/Four Star Feed's what makes them grow." In 1942, a fire destroyed buildings at the cottonseed processing plant, leaving only a fertilizer plant, a feed mill, and the present office. The office is a shed-roofed brick building that originally functioned as the boiler room of the cottonseed oil mill. Presently the complex includes the office, a scale and scale house dating to the mid-twentieth century, and two 1970s buildings, one of which is a blending house. As the descendant of the Lee County Cotton Oil Company, Sapona Mills is one of Sanford's oldest businesses.

Owner: John Barringer.
Sources: Jane S. Barringer; *Sanford Herald*, March 3, 1931, and March 16, 1936; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; Sanborn maps.

CONNOR H. SMITH BUILDING

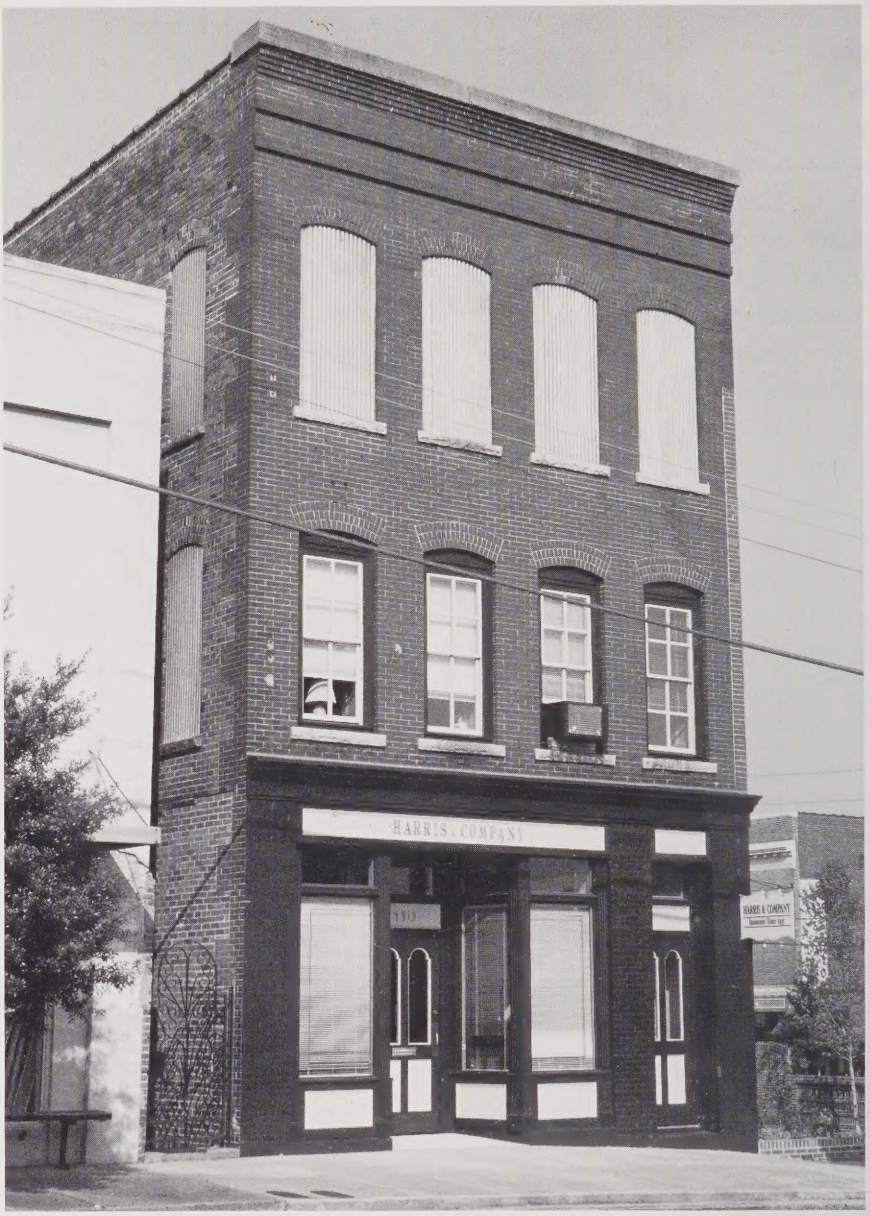
110 South Moore Street
Sanford
1909

Connor H. Smith (b. ca. 1863) came to Sanford in 1893 and started what was to become the town's largest lumberyard. His plant, located opposite the present St. Thomas Episcopal Church on North Steele Street, grew to encompass two planing mills, a siding on the Southern Railroad, and several houses for workmen.

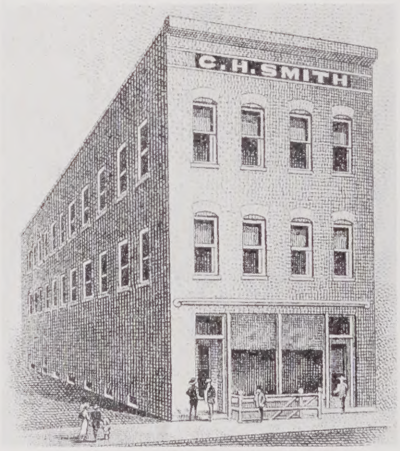
In 1909, Smith erected this three-story brick commercial and office building next door to what was then the Sanford Post Office. Robert T. Walker, who built Smith's residence at 500 Hawkins Avenue (demolished), may have been involved in the construction of the building. The original ground-floor tenant was a drugstore, and Smith shared the upper stories with a club and a lodge hall. In August 1909, the town permitted Smith to build a stair shaft on the front of his building to provide access to a basement barbershop. In later years, Gurley's Drug Store, a funeral parlor, a bowling alley, an electrical and plumbing shop, an insurance company, and a boardinghouse occupied the building. The Smith Building features segmental-arched windows and a corbeled parapet. The interior was remodeled in recent years, and wood and glass display windows in keeping with the originals were added.

Owners: Michael and Rebecca Kite.

Sources: Rebecca Kite; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; *Sanford Herald*, September 5, 1970; Railroad House Collection; Sanborn maps; U.S. census schedules.



Connor H. Smith Building



View of building from early C. H. Smith letterhead (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

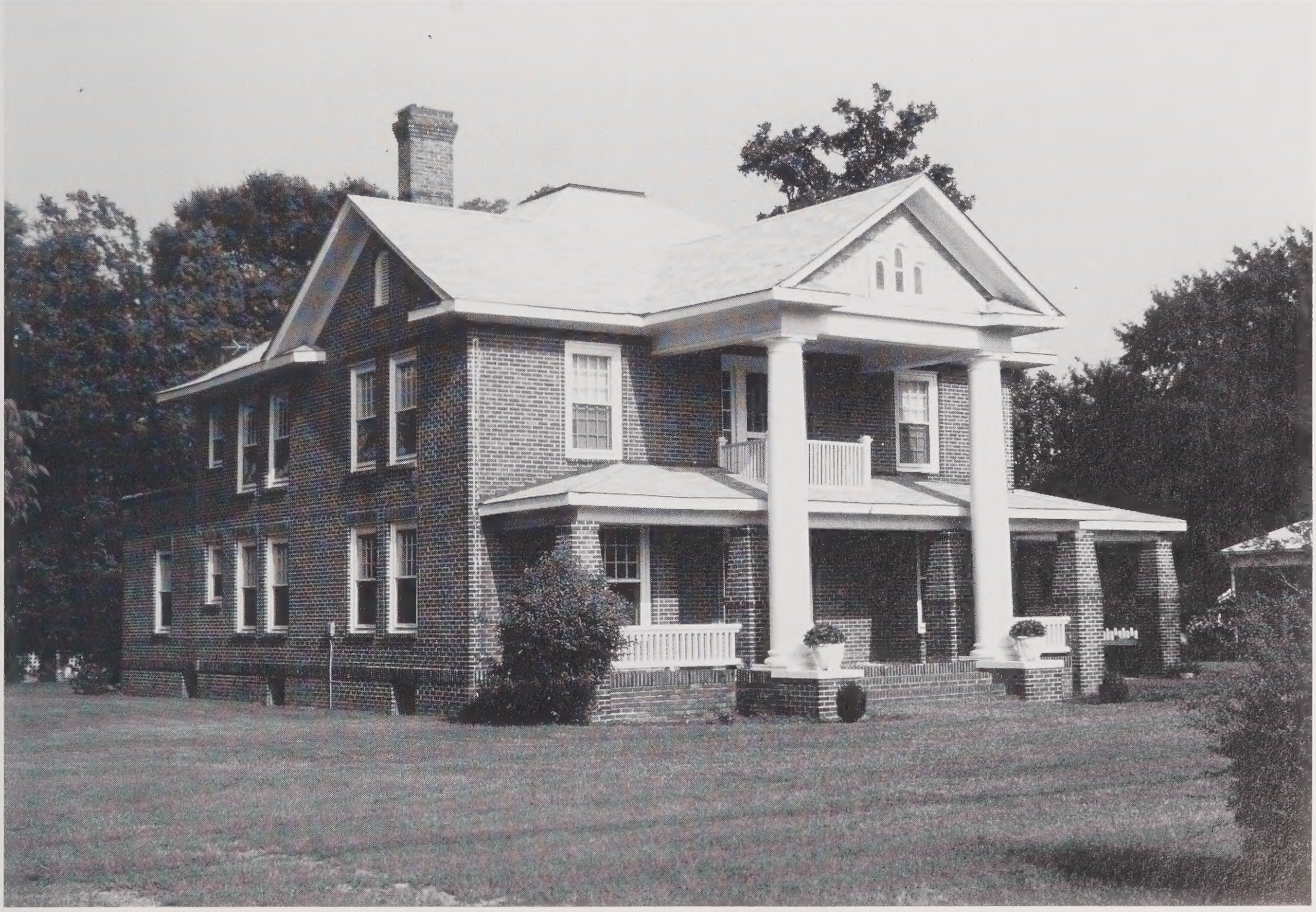
SAMUEL V. AND MAMIE W. STEVENS HOUSE

310 South Main Street
Broadway
Ca. 1906

Samuel Vernon and Mamie Watson Stevens hired the "Lassiter brothers" (relatives of Mamie) to build this two-story frame house in 1906 or 1907. The land on which the house was built once belonged to Mamie's parents, Malcolm M. and Elizabeth L. Watson, whose nineteenth-century residence stands nearby on South Main Street. S. V. Stevens was a farmer, lumberman, and owner of a roller mill and cotton gin that stand on the north side of Broadway.

The Stevenses remodeled about 1928, encasing their house in a brick veneer and adding a two-story portico; this portico engages a one-story porch supported by squat brick pillars. Stylistically, the house combines elements of the Craftsman, Classical Revival, and Colonial Revival styles. Other features include a hip roof with side gables, a porte cochere, and a one-story rear kitchen wing. Looping around the house is a drive that leads to two symmetrically placed, hip-roofed, frame outbuildings.

Owners: Robert and Miriam Troxler.
Sources: Mildred Womble and Forrest Stevens; Edwin Patterson, Lee County historian; Woman's Club, *Broadway*; Broadway Town Minutes.



Samuel V. and Mamie W. Stevens House

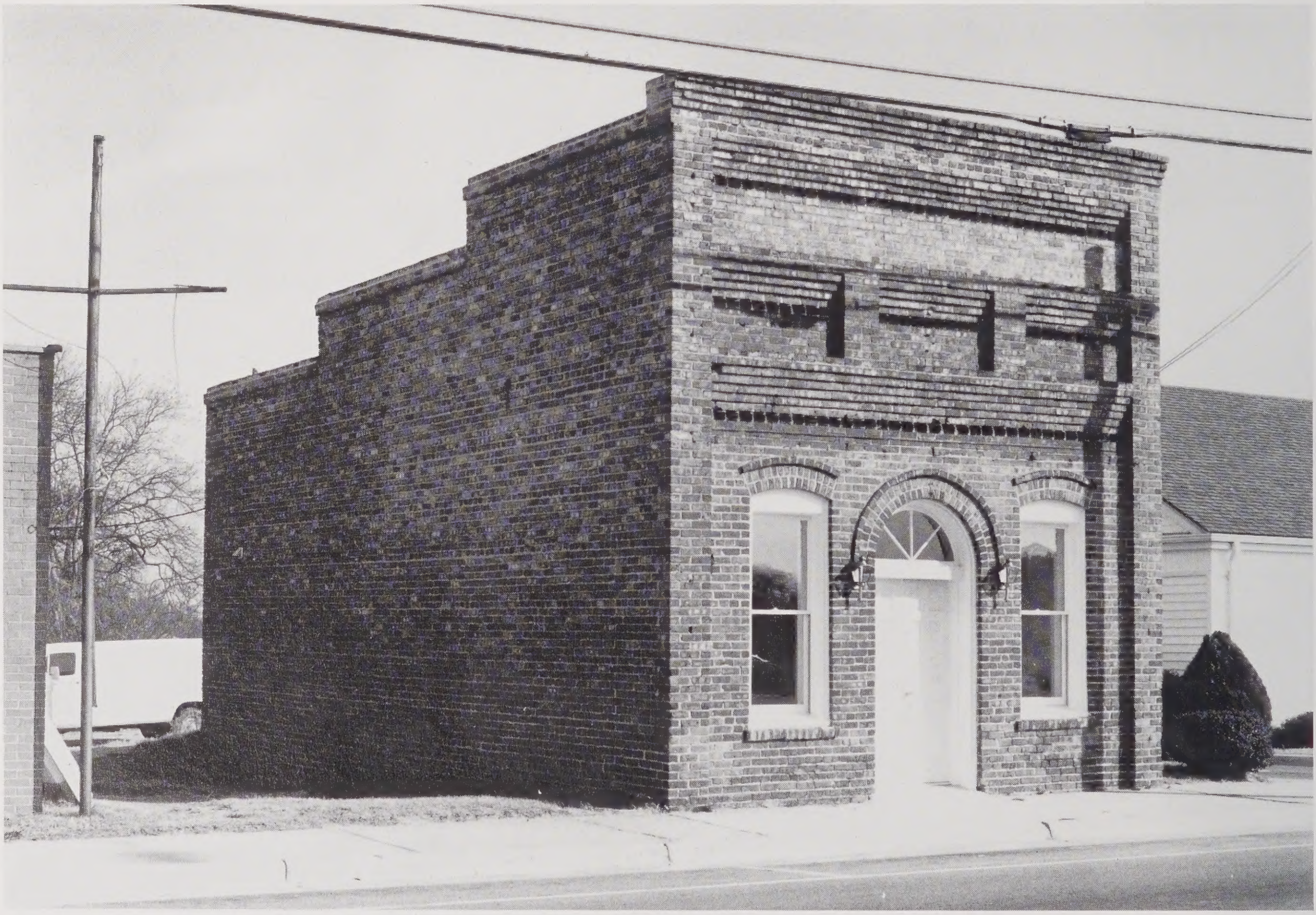
BANK OF BROADWAY

231 North Main Street
Broadway
1909

In 1907, two years after the Atlantic & Western Railroad arrived in Broadway and the town boomed, plans for a bank were in the works. The Bank of Broadway was organized in 1909, and that August it opened in a temporary frame building. A one-story brick building was under way by the end of the year.

The bank has decorative corbeling and houndstooth courses in its front parapet, segmental window openings, a front entry with a round-arched transom, and a modernized interior. Jonesboro banker A. W. Huntley served as the first president, and D. E. Shaw was the first cashier. Shaw, who eventually took control of the institution, earned a reputation for sound business practice during the Great Depression.

Sources: Woman's Club, *Broadway*; *News and Observer*, July 3, 1907; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; business directories.



Bank of Broadway (Photo by Michael T. Southern, 1985, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

SHAW FARM

3410 Shaw Pond Road (SR 1165)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1910

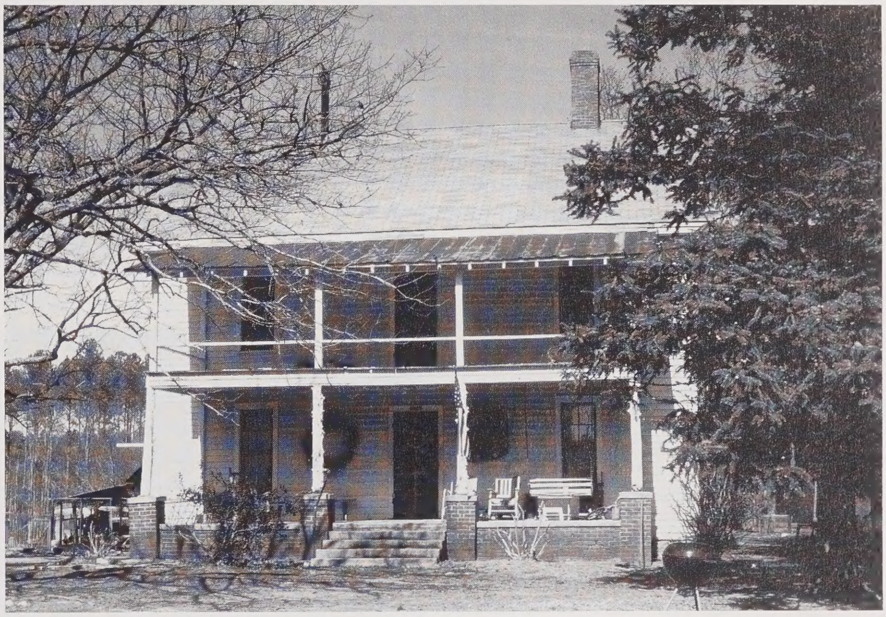
The large two-story frame house on this farm was probably built in the early 1900s for Ira Lacy Shaw and his sisters Mary Katherine, Margaret, and Lela. Lacy ran a hardware store in Broadway; Lela sold farmer's crop insurance and worked at the Bank of Broadway; and Mary Katherine and Margaret taught in the public schools. The Shaw House features a gable roof with cornice returns and decorative gable vents, a one-story ell, and a two-tier front porch supported by chamfered posts on the second tier and log posts with brick pedestals on the first tier. An interesting feature of the exterior is a screened porch on the side of the ell with hinged wooden flaps near the floor for sweeping out dirt.

The simple exterior of the Shaw House contrasts with its stylish Victorian interior. The front parlor in the first-floor southeast corner of the house, which was used for special occasions such as visits from the preacher, displays diagonal beaded tongue-and-groove walls with a vertical beaded tongue-and-groove wainscot and horizontal beaded tongue-and-groove panels over the windows and the mantel. The mantel in this parlor has a decorative frieze profile, chamfered pilasters, and a heavy bed mold under the shelf. Other rooms contain Victorian mantels with decorative features such as sawn frieze profiles, tapered pilasters, and lozenge appliqués. The center passage features a stair with turned newel posts and balusters and a front door with stenciled glass panes.

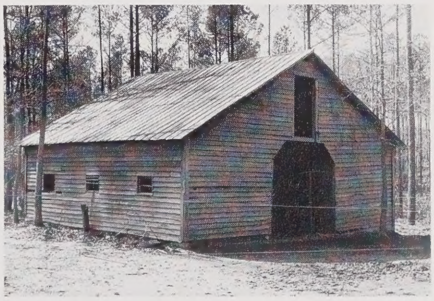
Directly behind the Shaw House stands a group of domestic outbuildings that includes a brick pump house, a well shelter, a canned goods storage shed, a meat house, a buggy house, a privy, chicken houses, and a laundry that also housed a gasoline-powered electric generator referred to by the Shaws as "the dynamo." Like the main house, the agricultural buildings were designed for convenience. The frame mule stable has a central drive-through and provision for feeding the mules from feed rooms between the stalls or from the loft above. The two-story frame pack house also contained a grading room and a cast concrete ordering pit. A brick flue on the pack house vented a stove that was used to control the inside temperature during work hours.

Owners: Nell H. Shaw, Mary Shaw Harper, David Alan Shaw, and Gerald E. Shaw.

Sources: Nell H. and Ralph Shaw; Sam and Judy McDonald.



Shaw House



Mule stable

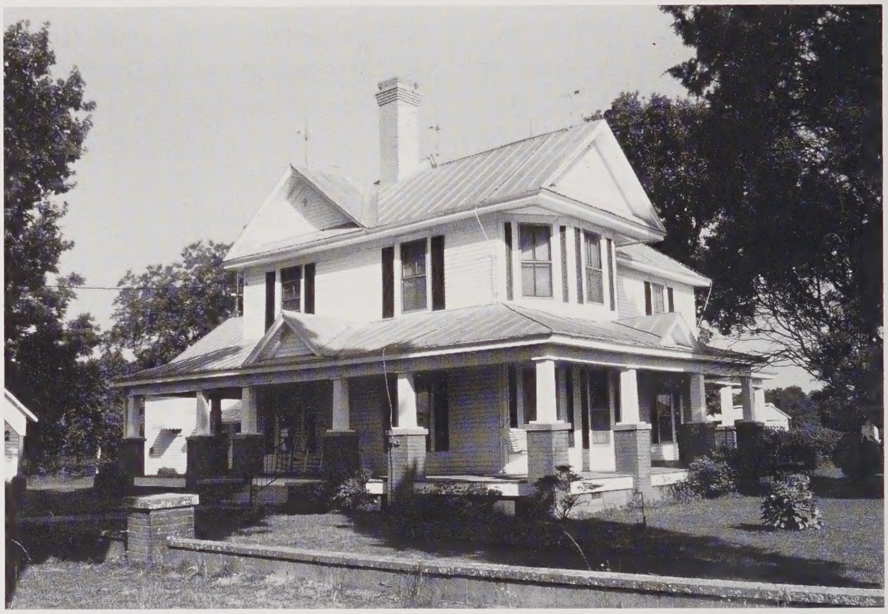
BERKE THOMAS FARM

309 Berke Thomas Road (SR 1535)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1910

The Thomas property ranks among Lee County's most extensive farm complexes from the early twentieth century. When William Berkeley Thomas established the farm in 1899, he erected a one-story frame house. This original dwelling now serves as the rear wing of a sprawling two-story frame farmhouse that Thomas completed about 1910. The house has a hip-and-gable roof with gable vents and a pedimented dormer, tall chimney stacks with corbeled caps, and a two-story bay window. A spacious one-story Craftsman porch wraps around three sides.

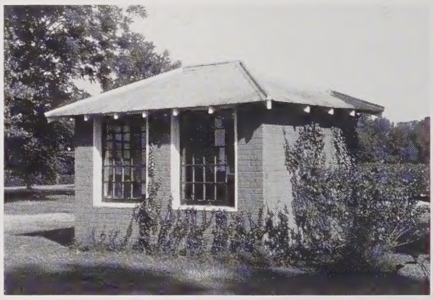
In the front yard, which is bordered by a low concrete-block wall with brick piers, stands a well-preserved brick flower house with a hip roof and southward-facing windows. To the south of the house are domestic and agricultural buildings, including a washhouse, a wood shed, a cotton house for storing cotton, and a wellhouse/dairy with sawdust-insulated walls. Across Berke Thomas Road is the main farm complex, which comprises several barns, a large wagon shelter, a pack house, and a grading house for working tobacco. During the early 1900s, the farm served as an overnight stop and place to water livestock and draft animals for farmers taking their produce from Fayetteville to Raleigh. The agricultural buildings on the Berke Thomas Farm illustrate the transition from cotton to tobacco farming during the period following World War I.

Owners: Mrs. L. A. Thomas and Louis A. Thomas, Jr.
Source: Mrs. L. A. Thomas and Gene Thomas.



Berke Thomas House

Domestic outbuildings



Flower house

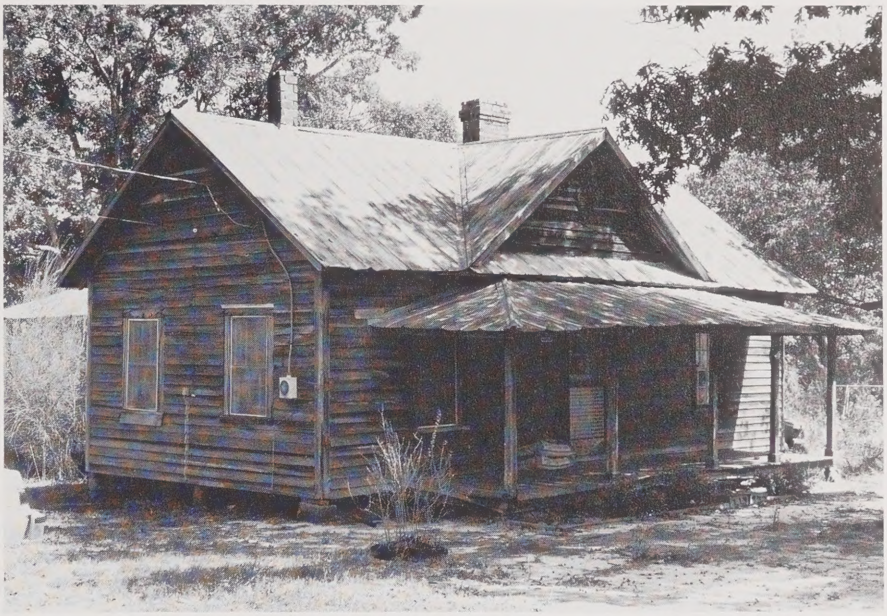
Barns and wagon shelter

7319 Center Church Road (SR 1303)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1910

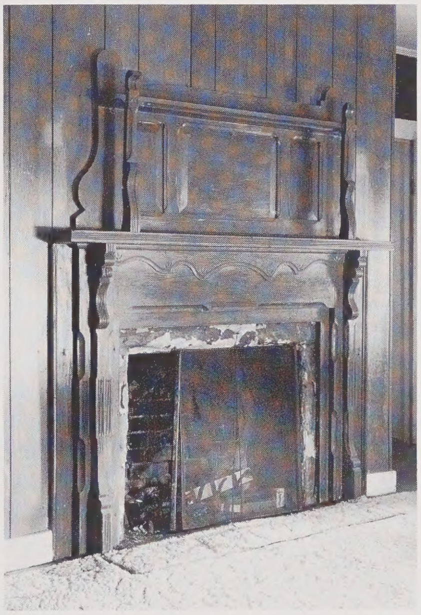
This one-story frame house incorporates a mid-1800s hall-parlor dwelling as an ell. The older dwelling was apparently built by Kenneth Wicker after he acquired the property from Malcolm Currie in 1857. Kenneth and his son Will raised corn, cotton, oats, and peas on the farm. Will Wicker also blacksmithed and "doctored" for his neighbors; his folk remedies included blood-letting and medicinal broths made from roots, tree bark, and herbs.

About 1910, Will Wicker added a new section to the house. It has a front porch with chamfered posts, a diamond-shaped vent in the front gable, and a two-room interior featuring an elaborate mantel with incised decoration and a mirrored overmantel. This mantel is said to have been salvaged from a hotel in Pinehurst. The earlier (rear) section—which may have been moved to this site when the 1910 section was built—contains a mantel with a two-panel frieze; an early kitchen and dining room wing extends from its south side. Near the house stand a frame tobacco barn, a shed, a farm bell on a post, and a frame wellhouse with a front porch that engages a poured concrete well curb dated 1928. A detached kitchen and a log barn formerly stood near the house.

Owners: Norman and Marie W. Brewer.
Sources: Marie W. Brewer; Mack Wicker, Lee County historian.



Wicker House



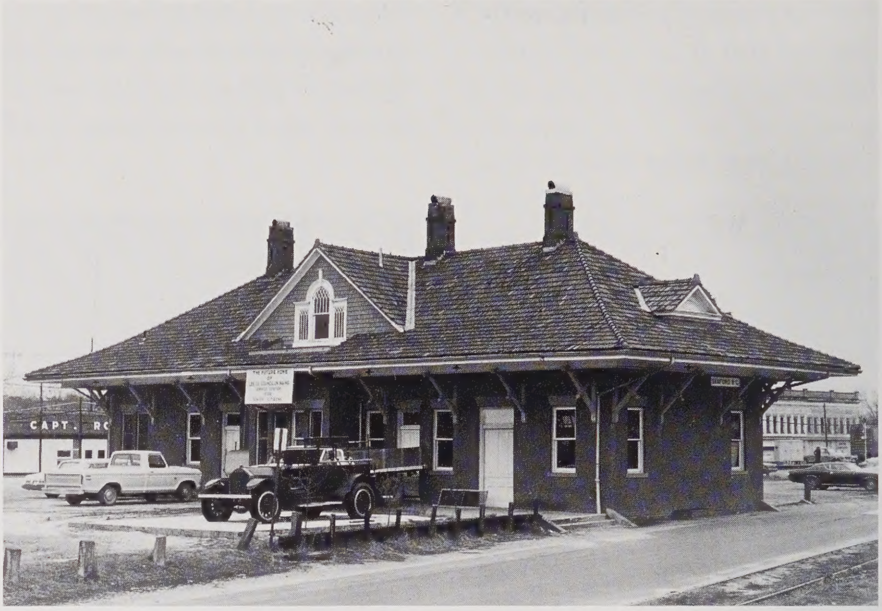
Mantel in ca. 1910 section

Mantel in original section

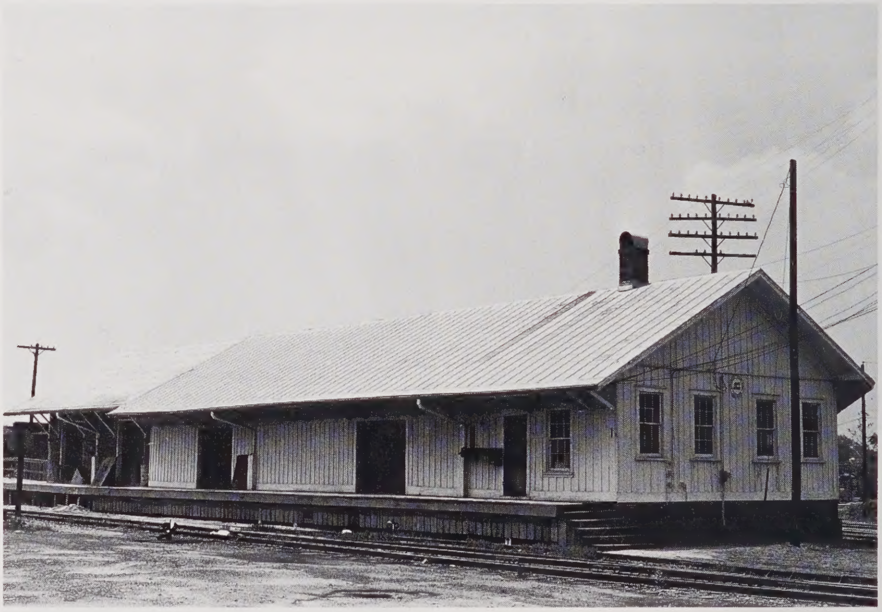
Charlotte Avenue and Moore Street
Sanford
Ca. 1910 and ca. 1926

The railroad depot figured as one of early Sanford's most important buildings. At the beginning of the twentieth century, the passenger depot was a one-story frame building with board-and-batten siding and widely overhanging gable eaves. About 1910, the old building was replaced by the present depot, a brick building with an overhanging hip roof supported by wooden brackets. The original orange ceramic roofing tiles were recently removed, but the roof retains gables with Palladian windows and chimneys with recessed panels in their stacks. On the remodeled interior are brick chimney masses with decorative corbeling and recessed panels. Stations similar to Sanford's were built up and down the Seaboard line during the period—an almost identical building, with tile roof intact, stands in Elberton, Georgia. Farther south along the tracks stands the Seaboard freight depot, a one-story frame building dating to 1926 or 1927, with board-and-batten siding and overhanging gable eaves supported by wooden brackets. This depot replaced an earlier building evidently constructed in the 1870s.

Sources: Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; *Sanford Express*, September 23, 1926; Railroad House Collection.



Passenger depot (Photo ca. 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



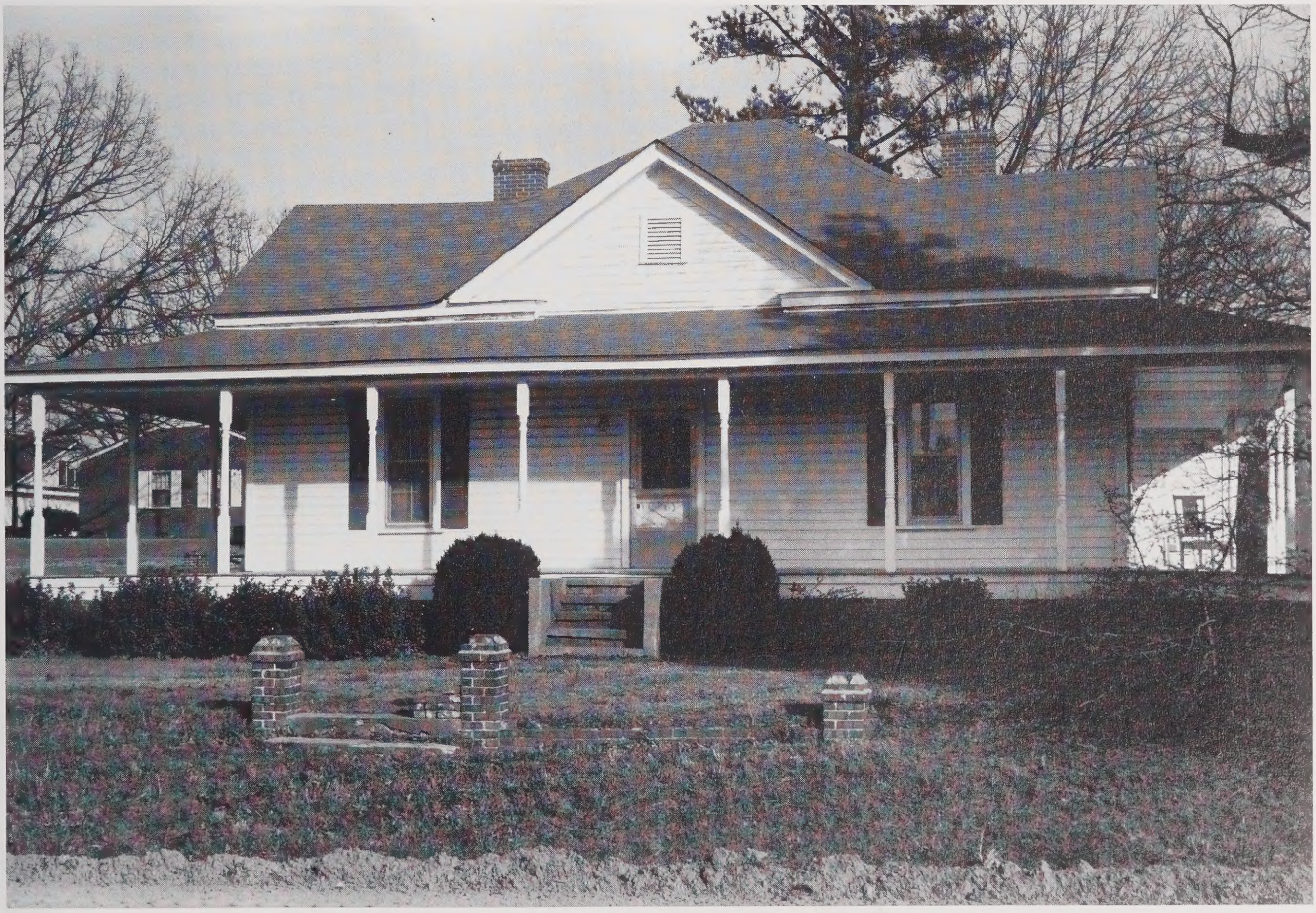
Freight depot (Photo ca. 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

5125 Joe Matthews Road (SR 1159)
Lemon Springs
1912

Duncan D. Buie and his wife Ruth had this one-story frame house built in 1912. Buie was an early Lemon Springs merchant who, with lumberman George W. Smith, operated the Smith & Buie general merchandise store in the 1890s. Buie is credited with laying out lots in the village of Lemon Springs, raising dewberries in the Lemon Springs area, and erecting a cotton gin at Swann's Station about 1910. He was a partner with John J. Edwards and M. C. Reeves in the Farmer's Cotton Gin Company, incorporated in 1918 and based in Lemon Springs. A lumber dealer and builder, Buie built benches for the first Lemon Springs United Methodist Church in 1892 and provided the lumber used in the construction of the 1929 Greenwood School, and it seems likely that he built his own house.

The Buie House has a roof form usually seen in Jonesboro but occasionally encountered in the Lemon Springs area: a hip roof with gabled side extensions and a centered front gable. A porch supported by turned posts wraps around three sides of the house, and to the rear extends a kitchen and dining room wing that is treated almost as a separate building. Brick chimneys rise on the interior. The yard in front of the house is bordered by a brick retaining wall punctuated by brick gateposts and smaller brick piers. Next to the house stands a gabled brick meat house, and a frame stable with a haymow stands nearby.

Sources: Doris A. Fischer; James R. Roberts; Lemon Springs Ruritan Club, *Builders of Freedom*, 71, 92; *Sanford Herald*, April 3, 1976; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; U.S. census schedules.



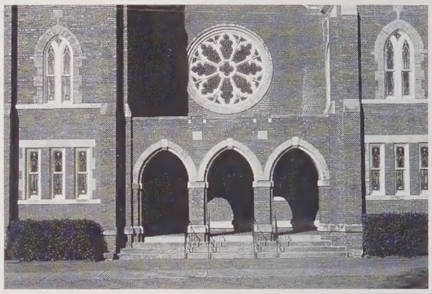
Duncan D. and Ruth Buie House

205 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
1914

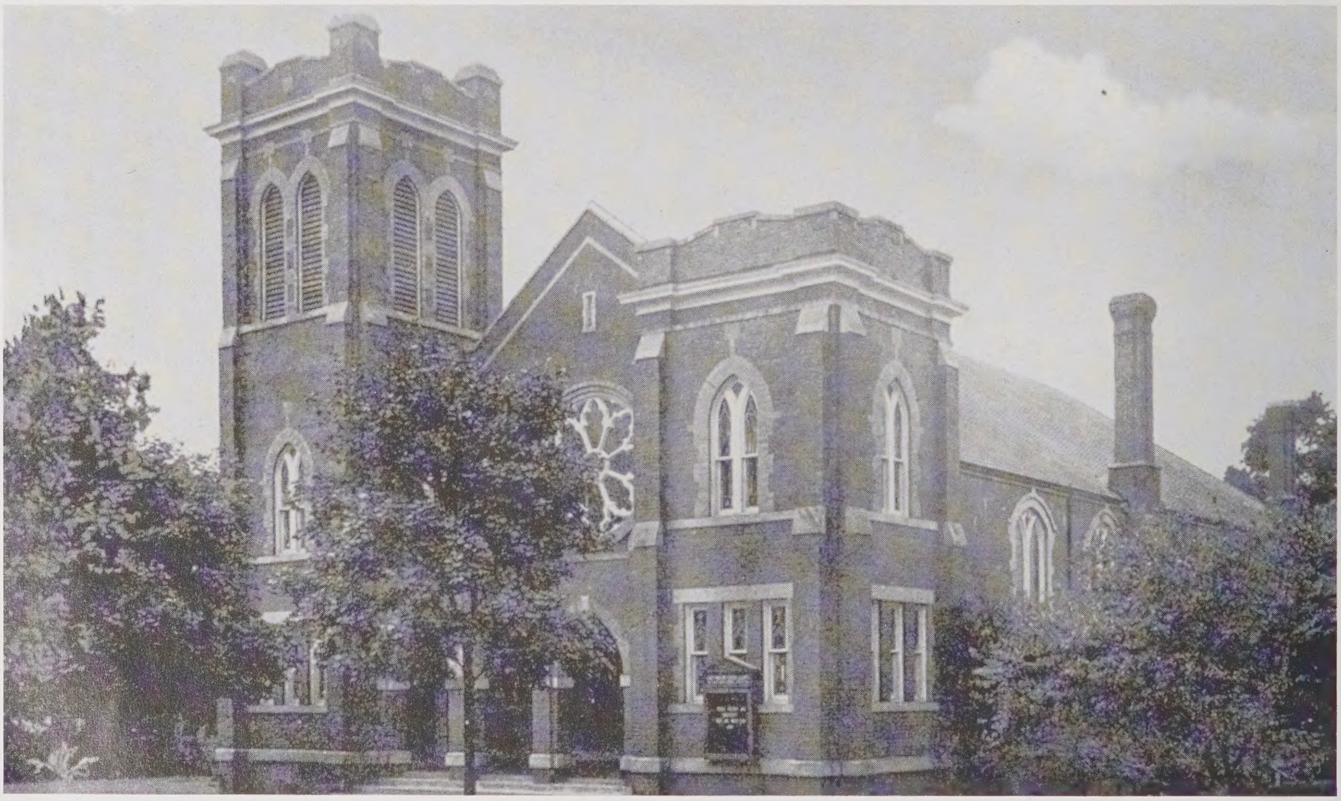
Like most Presbyterian churches in Lee County, Sanford's First Presbyterian is a daughter of Buffalo Presbyterian Church. The first church building was built in 1892–93, before the church was officially organized by the Fayetteville Presbytery in 1894. The original church, a frame building, featured lancet-arched windows and a centered entry tower with an octagonal belfry. In the 1910s the congregation planned the construction of a brick church on the site of the old building. W. A. Lashley was evidently hired as the contractor, and the first services were held in the new building in July 1914. A fire damaged the church on December 22, 1927, and the building was remodeled according to a design by Sanford architect L. M. Thompson, with Curry Golden of J. W. Stout & Company managing the reconstruction.

First Presbyterian is typical of the solid Gothic Revival churches that were built throughout North Carolina's towns and cities during the early 1900s. The large nave-form brick building is entered through a lancet-arched porch flanked on the south by a three-tier bell tower and on the north by a two-tier tower. Above the porch, in the parapeted gable end, is a rose window, and the side walls of the nave are pierced by coupled lancet-arched stained glass windows in blond brick surrounds that contrast with the red brick of the walls. Blond brick, stone and concrete trim and copings, and wood moldings articulate the exterior of the building. Behind and to the sides of the church are a brick fellowship hall and educational wing built by the L. P. Cox Company in 1960, a brick wing built in the 1980s, and other additions. Across from the church at 212 Hawkins Avenue stands the church manse, a two-story Colonial Revival dwelling built in 1923.

Sources: Wright, Seymour, and Monger, *A Century of Caring*; Kimrey, "Formation of First Presbyterian Church"; W. W. Seymour, Jr., church historian; McCracken and Bowen, "Hawkins Avenue"; *Sanford Express*, July 17, 1914; *Sanford Herald*, July 12, 1960; Railroad House Collection; Sanborn maps.



Front elevation



First Presbyterian Church of Sanford (Photo early 1900s, courtesy of W. W. Seymour, Jr.)

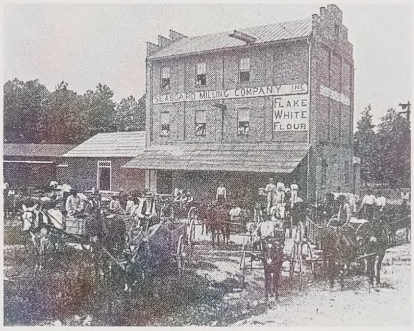
SEABOARD MILLING COMPANY

Sycamore Street
Sanford
1915

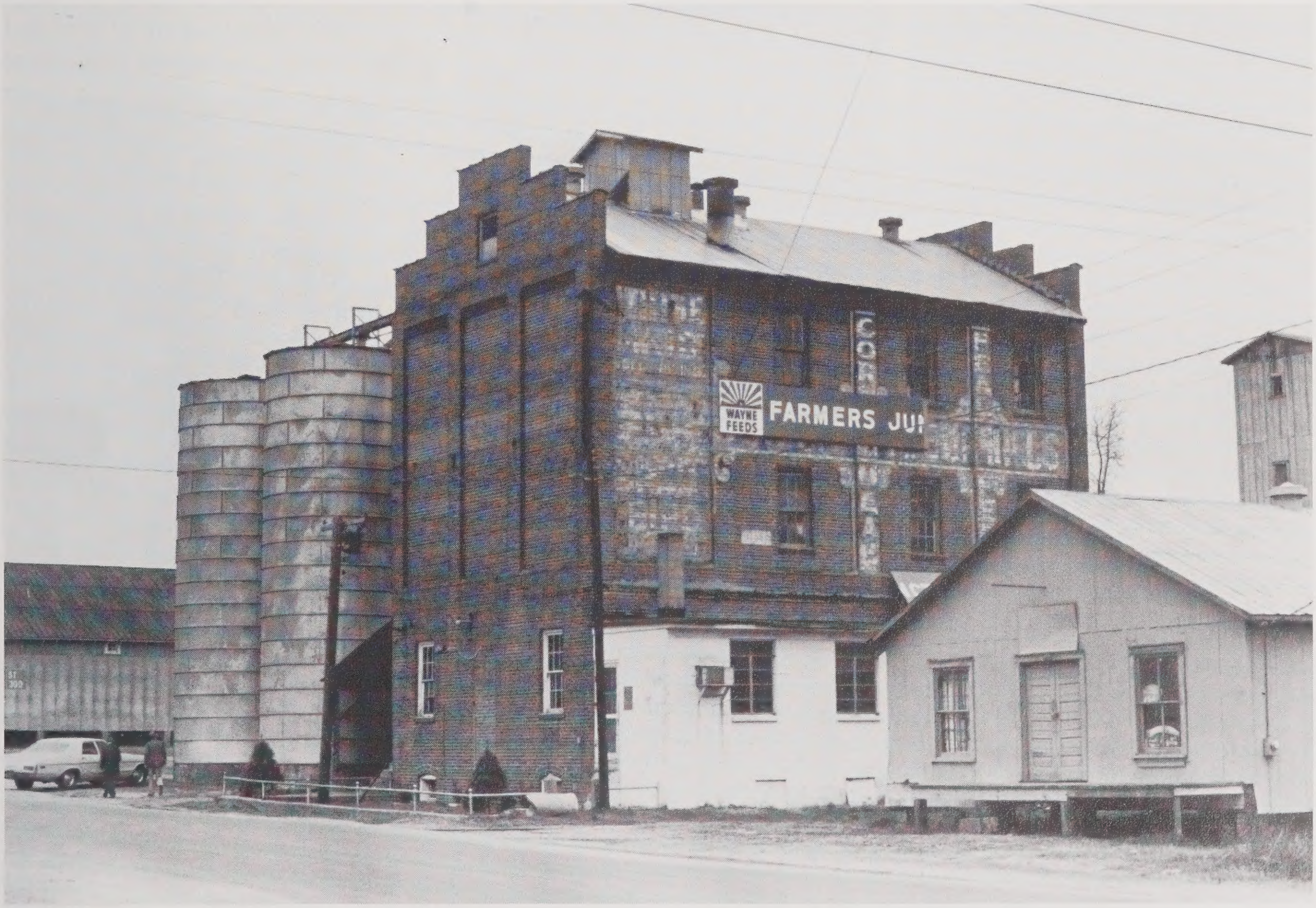
This impressive brick mill was built in 1915 for J. T. Ledwell on a siding of the Atlantic & Western Railroad. In 1925, the roller mill employed six operatives to produce an average of fifty barrels of flour a day, as well as cornmeal, graham flour, ship stuff, and chicken feed. The mill also handled custom grinding for local farmers. Operations were suspended briefly during the Depression, until Dan and Lewis Lawrence purchased the mill in 1937. Renamed the Broadway Roller Mill, the mill ground flour, meal, and feeds until the 1970s.

The mill is a three-story building with stepped gable parapets, a corbeled cornice, segmental-arched windows, and traces of painted signage from several eras. Originally, a suspended canopy sheltered a loading dock on the east side, and a one-story frame wing extended to the rear. Metal grain elevators, a one-story cinder-block wing, and metal-sided warehouses surround the mill today.

Sources: Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; *Sanford Express*, June 5, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, May 10, 1966; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; Railroad House Collection; Sanborn maps.



Historic view, ca. 1920 (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)



Seaboard Milling Company (Photo ca. 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

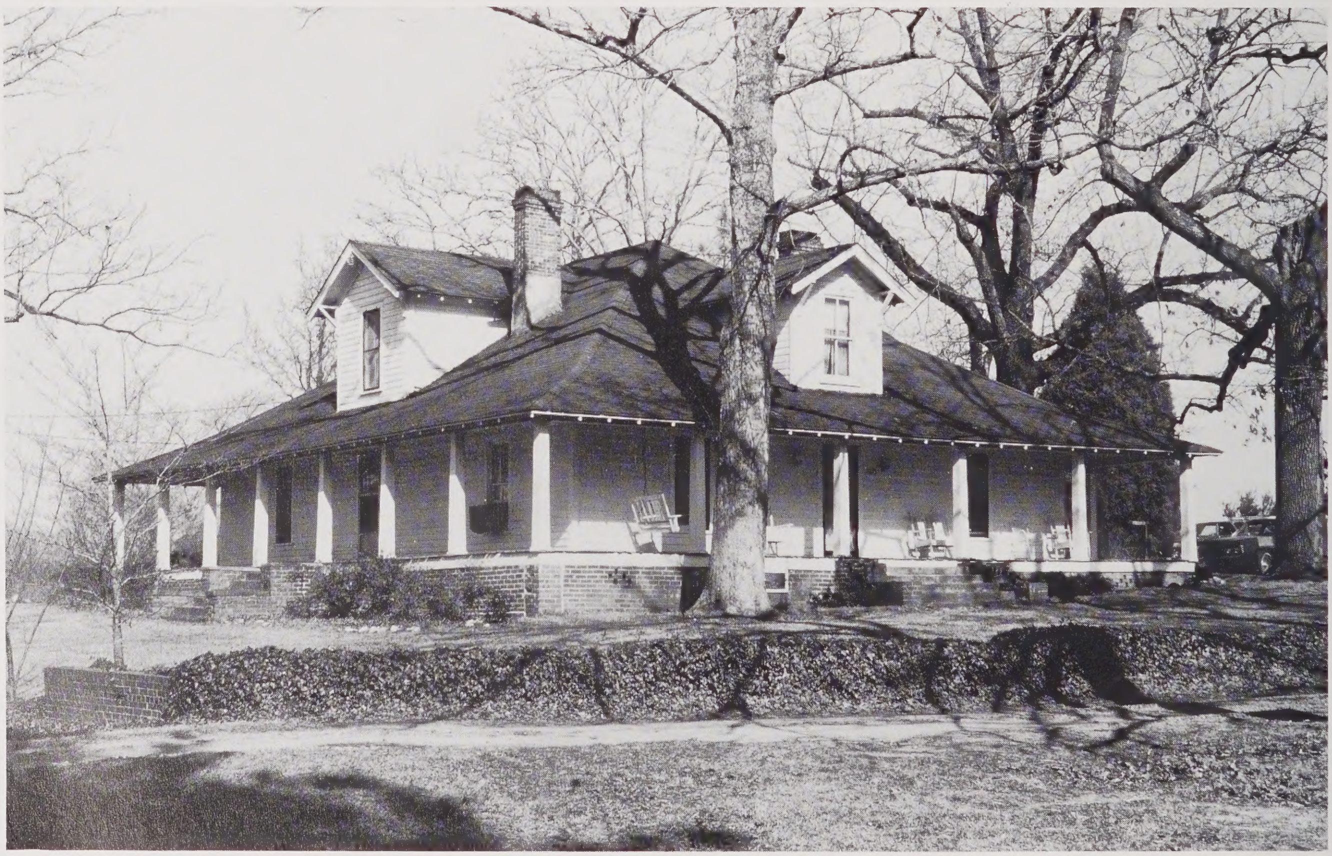
McGILVARY FARM

4417 Lemon Springs Road (SR 1160)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1915

Peter McGilvary was the original owner of the one-and-a-half-story frame farmhouse, which was built in the 1880s. By the turn of the twentieth century, Pierce Womack had acquired the property, but in 1902 or 1903, he traded the farm to Evander Jackson McGilvary, Peter McGilvary's brother, for property near Cameron. Evander remodeled the house in 1915; he may have employed a Mr. Godfrey as his carpenter.

The McGilvary House has a hip roof that engages a wraparound porch on three sides; on each face of the roof are gabled dormers with Craftsman eaves brackets. A photograph of the house from around 1920 shows log posts that were used to support the porch until the present square wooden posts were put in place. On the inside the house has simple door and window trim, two mantels dating to the 1880s (one with a bracketed shelf, the other with curious downward tapering pilasters), and one mantel dating to 1915 with a decorative frieze profile, chamfered pilasters, and a bracketed shelf. Around the house are domestic and farm outbuildings dating to the early 1900s: sheds, a chicken house, a frame barn (built before 1915), board-and-batten and tar-paper-sided frame tobacco barns, and a metal-sided frame pack house with an ordering pit.

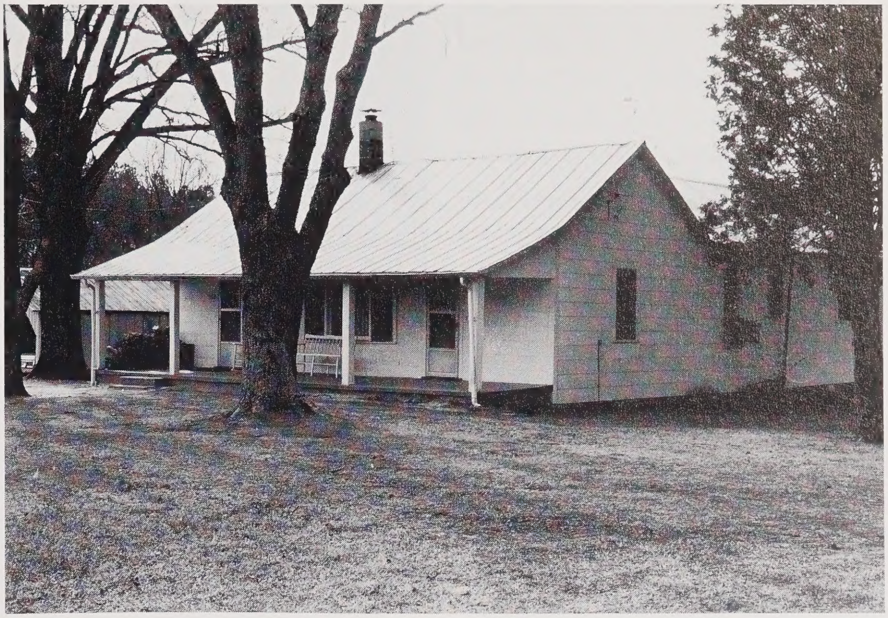
Owners: Lucille and Allie McGilvary, Pattie W. McGilvary, and James L. McGilvary.
Source: Lucille McGilvary.

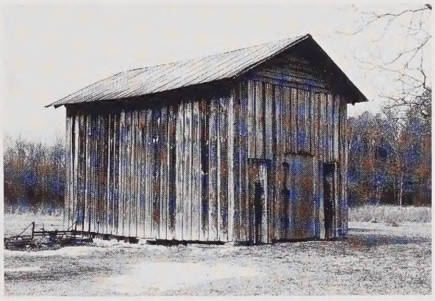


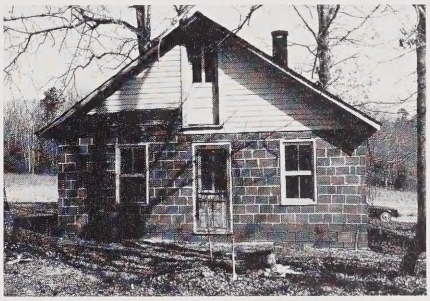
McGilvary House

KEY-FLYNN FARM

7526 Cedar Lane (SR 1182)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1915


Key-Flynn House


Pack house


Tenant house

The one-story frame house on this farm was built for Surry County native Ezra "Izzey" Key, probably during the 1910s. In 1918 the farm was purchased by another Surry County native, Burrell Washington Flynn (1867–1943); both men were part of the migration of Piedmont tobacco farmers to Lee County. The farmhouse has an engaged front porch and rear shed room and an ell. Nearby stand several outbuildings dating to the 1940s and 1950s, the most interesting of which is a tall board-and-batten building built in 1940 by B. W. Flynn's son, Thurman Flynn. The pack house features tier poles for hanging cured tobacco; humidity in the air would return moisture to the leaves, enabling them to be handled without crumbling. To the south of the main domestic and farm complex is a one-story gable-fronted tenant house constructed in 1945 of brick tile, one of the few building materials available locally during and just after World War II.

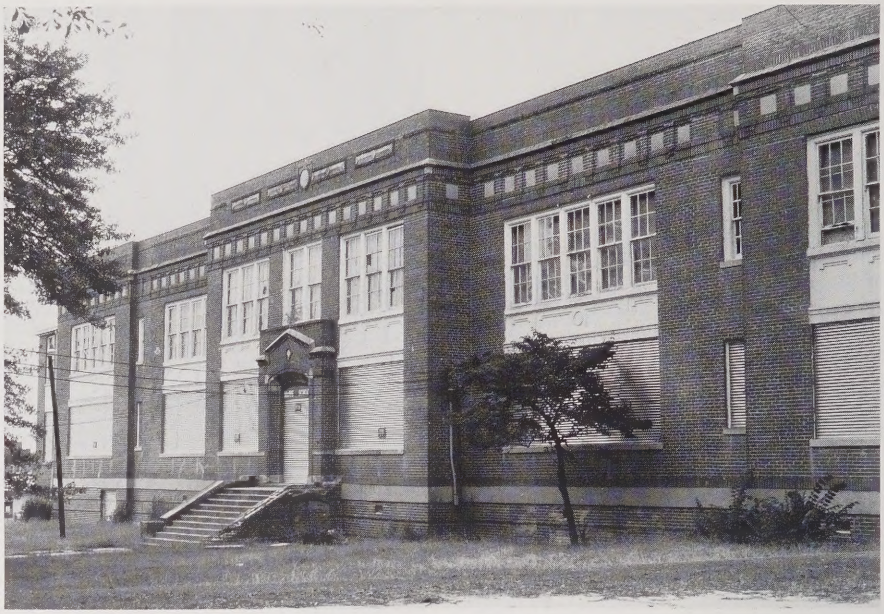
Owner: Thurman Flynn.
Source: Thurman Flynn; Marvin Gaster, Lee County historian.

219 Maple Avenue
Sanford
1916

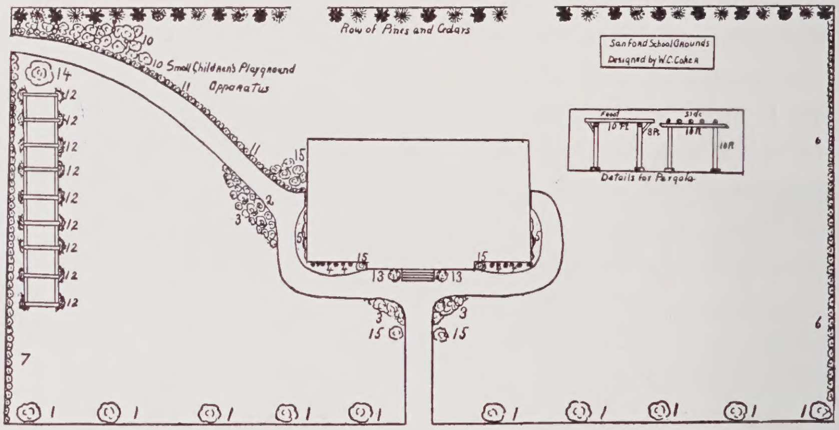
Sanford's steady growth during the early 1900s necessitated the construction of a second school building to relieve overcrowding at the Sanford Graded School on Carthage Street. In March 1916, the Sanford school board chose architect C. G. Sayre—a regional specialist in public school architecture—to design a school for East Sanford, and Joe W. Stout built the school the same year. Although an extensive planting scheme with wisteria-draped pergolas was devised for the school grounds in 1921, it does not appear that this plan was carried out. Additions were made to the two ends of the school in 1923.

The two-story brick school is conventional in form, with a classical scheme of projecting center and end pavilions. The detailing is more unusual, blending elements of the Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles. Running at the top of the facade, below the parapet, is a checkered band of alternating brick and concrete panels. The principal entry is recessed in a segmental-arched surround capped by a Tudor-arched concrete cornice. The building's six-over-six-sash windows are divided between the first and second stories by spandrels with recessed panels. A mid-twentieth-century brick auditorium extends from the east end of the building.

Sources: Lee County Board of Education minutes; *Sanford Herald,* March 16, 1936; Coker and Hoffman, *Design and Improvement of School Grounds*; Sanborn maps.



East Sanford Graded School



1921 plan of school grounds

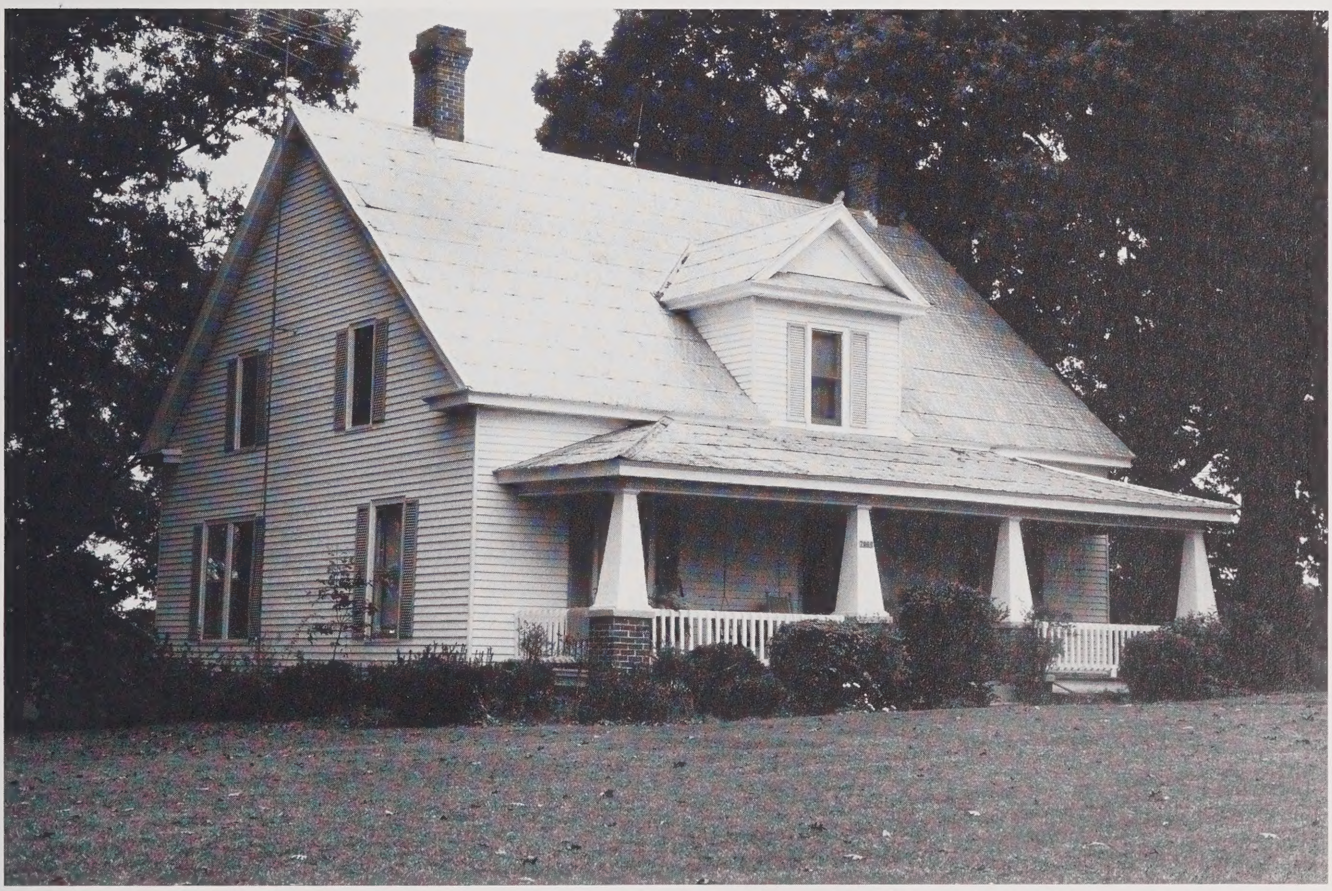
7000 Henley Road (SR 1305)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1918

Like other tobacco farmers in the North Carolina Piedmont, Yadkin County natives Ezra Q. and Beulah Matthews were attracted to Lee County by the easily cultivated sandy soil. The Matthewses followed relatives and neighbors (including pioneer Lee County tobacco farmer H. A. Matthews) to the county in 1918, and they established the first tobacco farm in the Henley Road area. The Matthewses purchased seventy-two acres and an unfinished frame house built by their neighbor, County Agent James H. Henley. They used surplus mantels from the Makepeace Box & Lumber Company in Sanford to finish the interior. A supplier in Raleigh provided the shingle-pattern pressed metal roofing used on the roof in 1931. In 1955 the Matthews family grew tobacco, wheat, corn, and oats on their farm and engaged a tenant family to cultivate about nine acres.

The one-and-a-half-story frame Matthews House features a gable roof with a front gabled dormer, a Craftsman front porch, and a small ell. Near the house are domestic outbuildings such as a brick-tile meat house and canning shed and a cinder-block garage. Flanking the large front yard are monkey puzzle trees purchased in Greensboro in the 1930s. During the mid-twentieth century, the Matthewses diversified their farming operations by raising swine and dairy cows. To their group of log and frame tobacco barns and a two-level frame pack house, the Matthewses added a Grade A milking barn about 1949, a hay barn, a granary, and other buildings. These improvements make the Matthews Farm one of the most extensive agricultural complexes in western Lee County.

Owner: Gaynelle Matthews Cox.
Sources: Beulah Matthews; Lee County Deed Book 17, p. 188; *Sanford Herald*, March 29, 1955.

Mantel in first-story west room



Ezra Q. and Beulah Matthews House

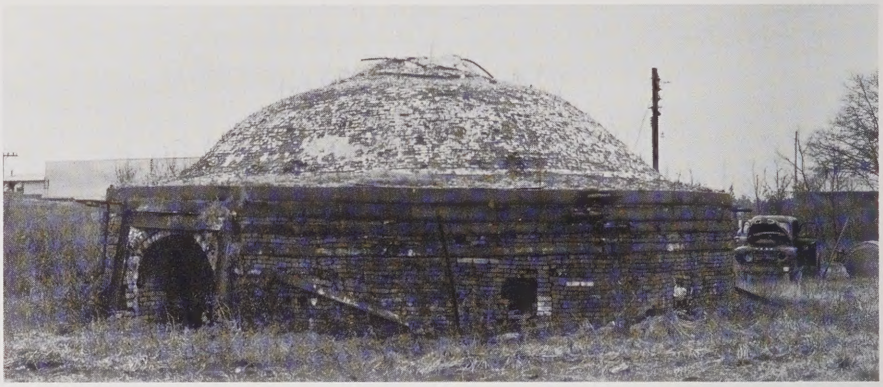
COLON BRICK PLANTS

Colon Road (SR 1415) and Post Office
Road (SR 1418)
Colon
Ca. 1920

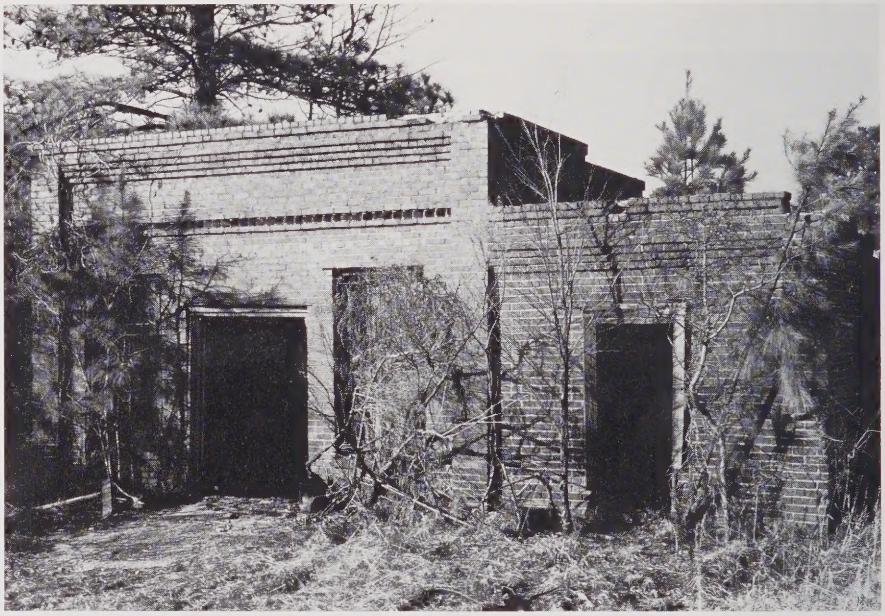
The present Cherokee Sanford Group complex at Colon developed from several unrelated brick plants established in the 1920s. The Sanford Brick & Tile Company began manufacturing brick at Colon during the 1920s; it was joined by the Shale Brick Company, which operated eight or ten beehive kilns and a commissary that issued its own scrip. About 1920, Rowan County brick manufacturer Lewis Calvin Isenhour opened a plant at Colon with ten beehive kilns. This plant came to be known as the "Little Plant" after Isenhour built a second facility with fifteen beehive kilns. The second plant was known as the "Wayne County Plant," because an ex-convict employee of Mr. Isenhour's complained that working at the plant was worse than being on the Wayne County prison gang. Isenhour bought out his local competitors in the 1930s, adopting the name of one of them—the Sanford Brick & Tile Company. In the late 1940s, Sanford Brick & Tile launched an expansion that resulted in the enormous complex of today.

The best-known remnant of the early brick plants at Colon is the one surviving beehive kiln at the site of the Shale Brick Company. The kiln (also known as a "periodic") measures thirty-two feet in diameter. At the apex of the domed roof is a circular exhaust vent. Large archways on the south and north sides permitted loads of brick to be wheeled in and out, and ten smaller peripheral arched openings allowed coal to be shoveled in to fuel the kiln. It is possible that the present kiln is the result of a 1940s reconstruction: kilns had to be rebuilt frequently because of the destructive effects of cyclical firing and cooling. About 1960, the kiln was leased to a company that used it to make charcoal briquettes.

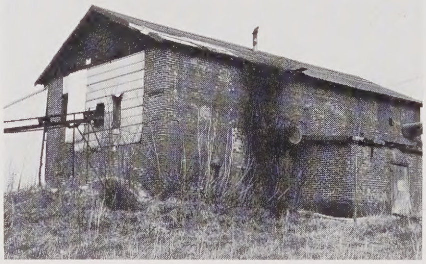
Mixing and grinding mills remain at the Little Plant, at the Wayne County Plant, and near the surviving beehive kiln at the Shale Brick Company plant. These are large brick buildings with gable roofs, wide entryways, and concrete machinery emplacements. Offices stand at the original Sanford Brick & Tile Plant,



Beehive kiln (Photo by Michael T. Southern, 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



Shale Brick Company office



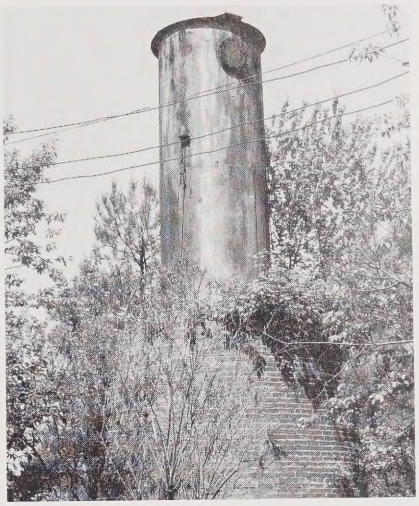
Grinding mill at the Little Plant

1940s office

the Shale Brick Company Plant, and the Wayne County Plant; these are one-story brick buildings with decorative corbeled and houndstooth parapets. A fourth office building, built by the Isenhours in the late 1940s, stands on Post Office Road; this one-story brick building is detailed in the Colonial Revival style, with a front porch supported by slender Doric columns. Also on Post Office Road are a two-story brick company store and post office building. At the Colon Road crossing of the Norfolk Southern tracks stands a small brick railroad-related building, possibly a depot. Today, the ruins of Colon's early brick industry are scattered among the clay pits that surround the huge Cherokee Sanford Group plant.

Sources: Robert E. Brickhouse and Warren Austin, Lee County brick industry historians; Ted Lawrence, Lee County historian; Brickhouse, "Sanford Brick Corporation"; Brickhouse, "Beehive Brick Kiln."

Cherokee Sanford Group plant



Vent stack at the Wayne County Plant

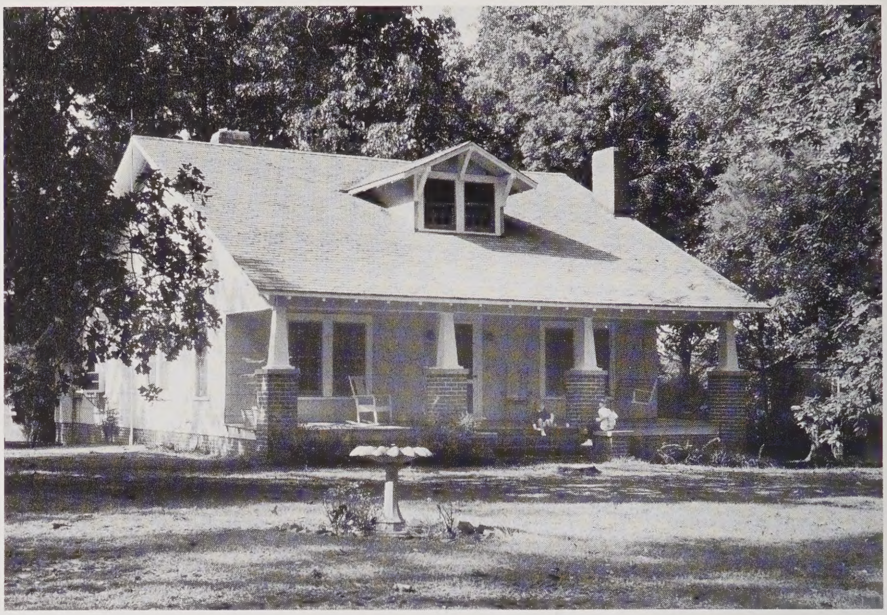
7308 Center Church Road (SR 1303)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1920

Coy Cole established this farm around 1920, building a small, one-story, board-and-batten farmhouse. In 1935 or 1936, W. Edgar and Mary Belle Yow purchased the farm, and in 1938, they built a one-and-a-half-story frame Craftsman bungalow with the assistance of their neighbors. The Yows also built a small brick flower house with south-facing glass windows and a frame washhouse with a brick washtub hearth and a front porch sheltering a well.

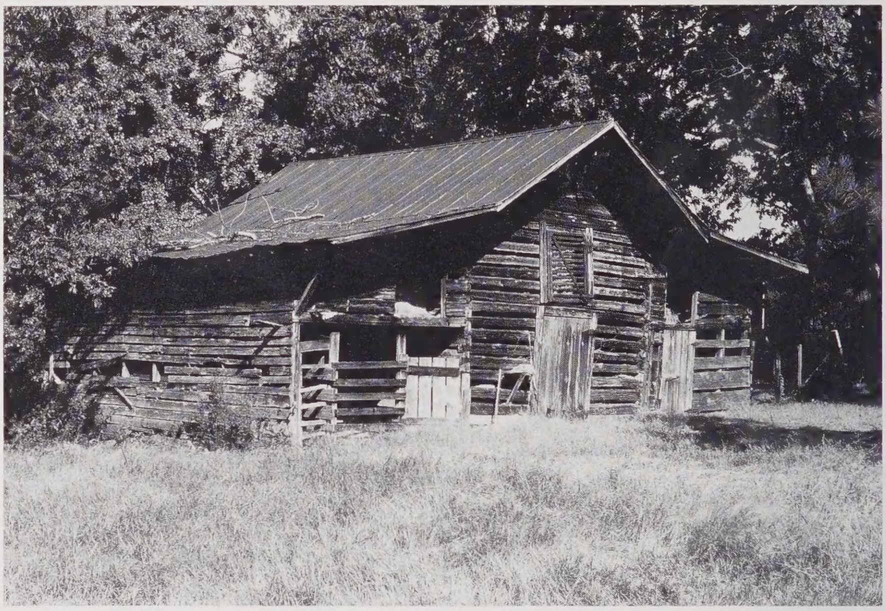
Edgar Yow concentrated on tobacco farming, and he built a large complex of log and frame tobacco barns. North of the house stands a half-dovetailed log barn that Yow moved onto the farm from another site; the barn has stalls for horses, mules, and cows below a haymow with a slatted door. Yow also did blacksmith work for his neighbors; his shop stands on the farm.

Owner: M. D. Yow.
Sources: M. D. Yow; Lee County Deed Book 31, p. 271, and Deed Book 32, p. 135.

Flower house (Photo by Hal Tysinger)



W. Edgar and Mary Belle Yow House



Barn

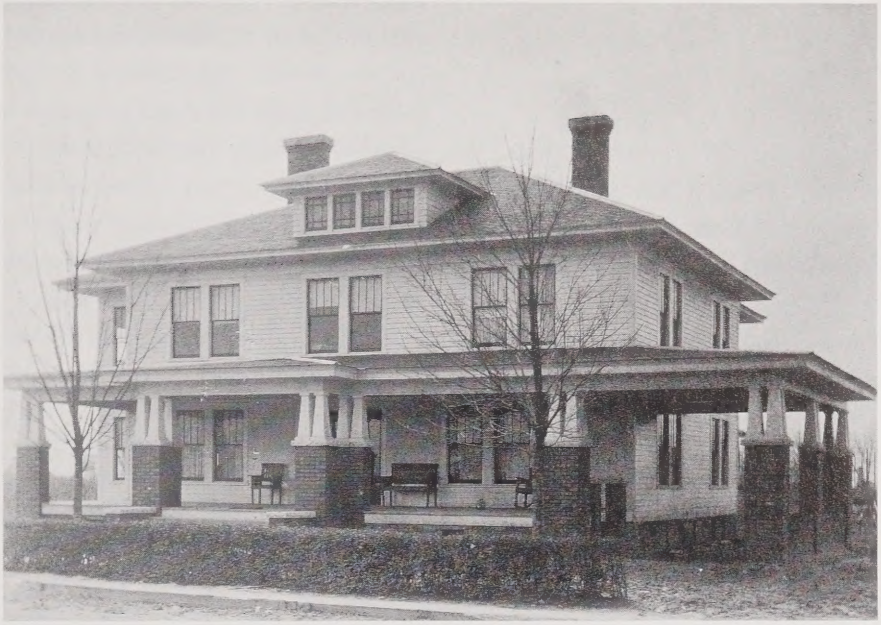
GEORGE T. AND NELLIE G. CHANDLER HOUSE

South Main Street
Broadway
Ca. 1920

George Thomas Chandler (1887–1952) moved to the booming young town of Broadway from Randolph County about 1905 and opened a general store. By 1919 he had formed the Chandler & Farlowe Lumber Company, which operated tram lines into the forests of Moore County during the 1930s. Chandler was also one of the original incorporators of the Bank of Broadway. After Chandler's death, his son Clarence operated the lumber business, which was located behind the present Broadway post office and town hall buildings.

George T. Chandler and his wife, Nellie Gray Chandler (1885–1980), who married in 1906, evidently had the core of the present house built in 1907. Their two-story frame house featured two front gables, heart-shaped gable vents, and other Victorian details. During the 1920s, the Chandlers remodeled their house in the Craftsman style, employing Jonesboro builder Leslie P. Cox. The house now features a hip roof with a hipped dormer and a one-story wraparound Craftsman porch with a porte cochere at its north end.

Owner: Belinda Gail Dickens.
Sources: Belinda Gail Dickens and Ted Chandler; *Broadway, North Carolina, 1870–1970*; Carriker, *Railroading*, 2:165; *Sanford Herald*, August 18, 1962; Lee County deeds; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; U.S. census schedules.



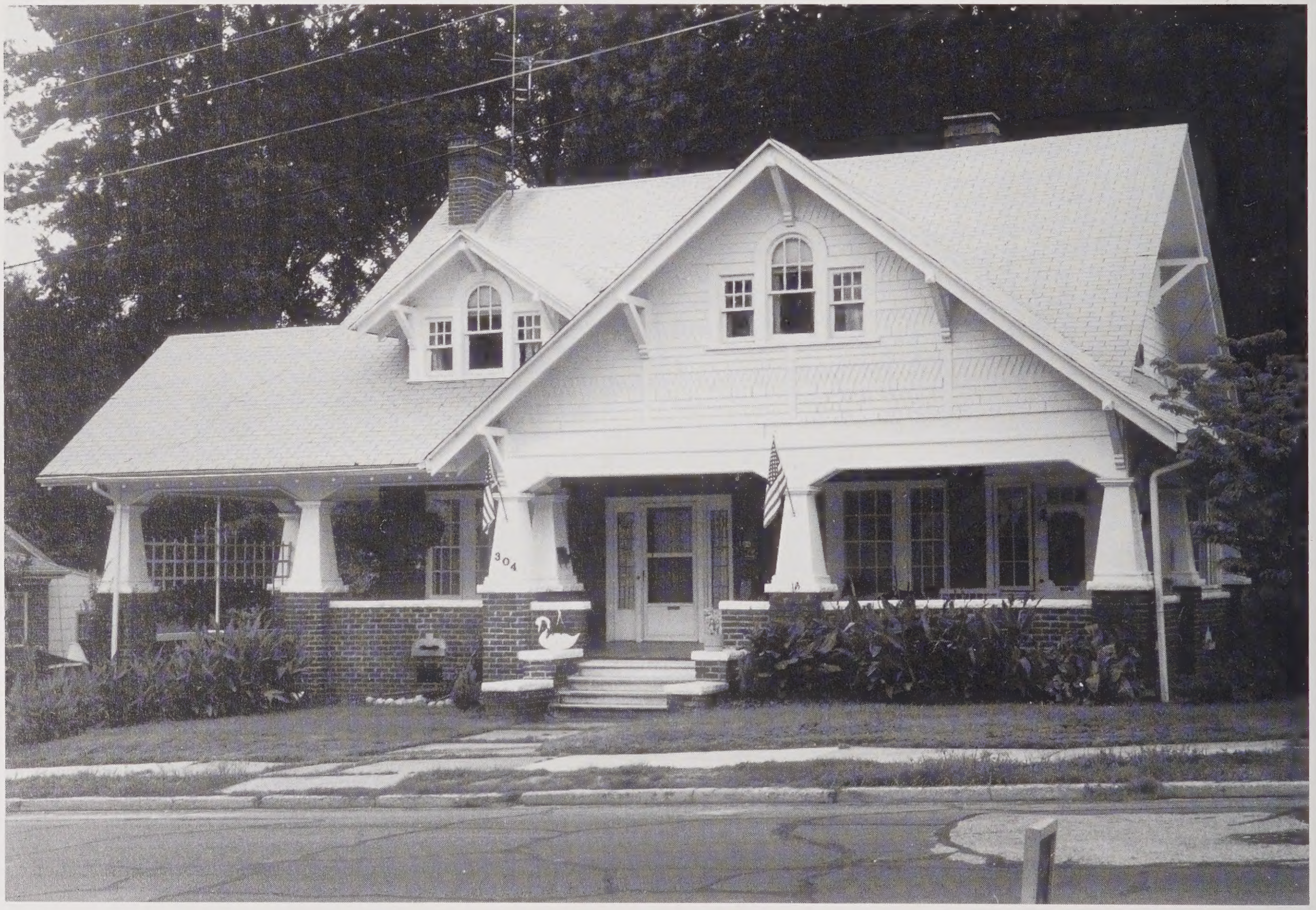
George T. and Nellie G. Chandler House (Photo ca. 1925, courtesy of Ted Chandler and Belinda Gail Dickens)

Garden (Photo mid-1900s, courtesy of Ted Chandler and Belinda Gail Dickens)

304 Summit Drive
Sanford
Ca. 1920

Henry Fisher Makepeace, an officer of Sanford Sash & Blind, and his wife, Elizabeth Milliken Makepeace, had this one-and-a-half-story Craftsman bungalow built during the early 1920s. The architect for the house was probably Makepeace's employee, L. M. Thompson, who also designed the similar Lewis D. Isenhour House at 318 Summit Drive. The Makepeace House combines standard Craftsman features, such as brick and wood porch columns, gable brackets, and a porte cochere, with variegated wood-shingle gable sheathing and Palladian gable windows typically associated with Victorian architecture. Other features include an engaged porch with decorative scuppers in the porch knee wall, and mottled red, purple, and orange bricks used in the construction of the first-story walls.

Sources: E. M. Williams and William Finch; Ralph Monger, Jr., Lee County historian; Sanborn maps.



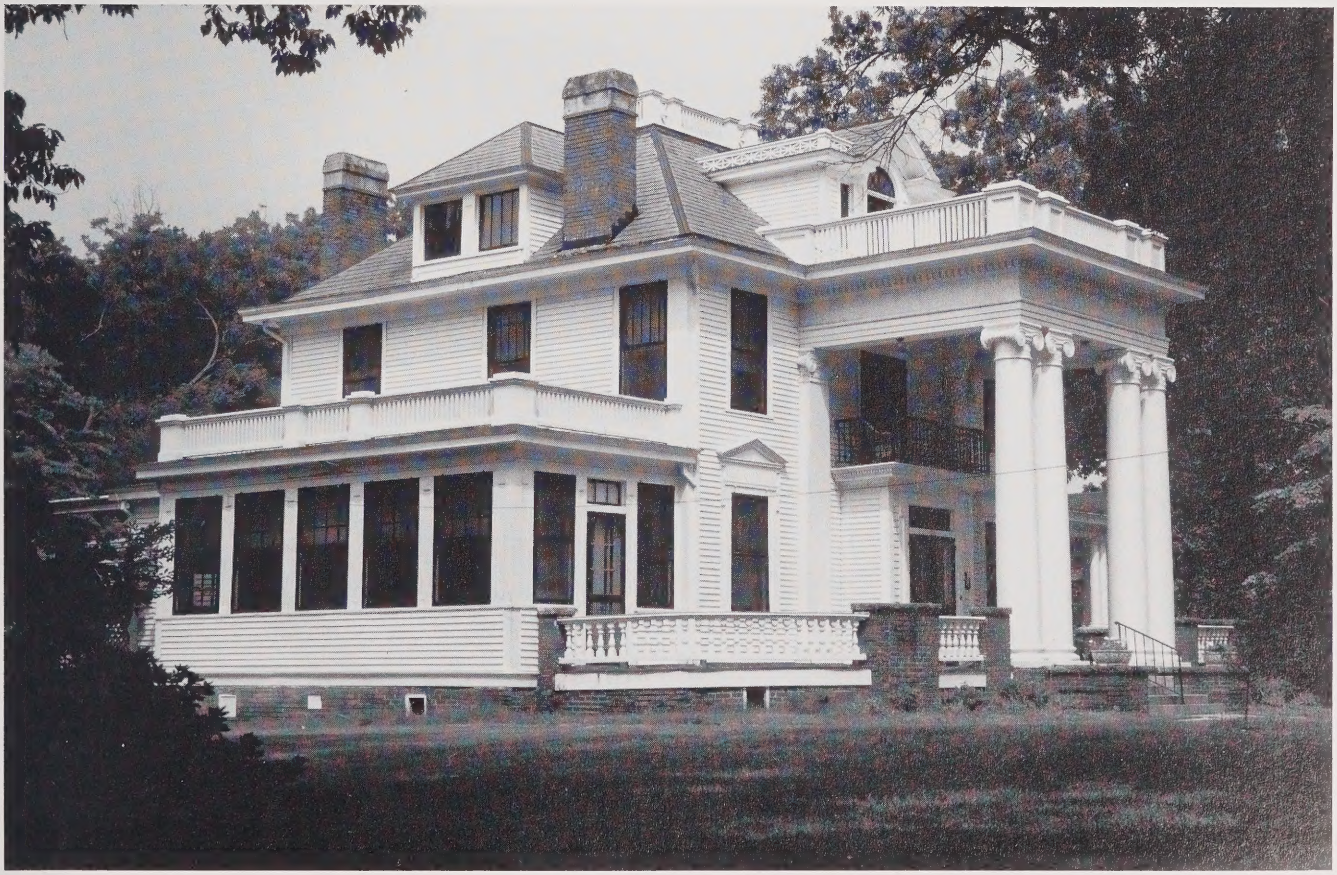
H. Fisher and Elizabeth M. Makepeace House

305 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
1922

Sampson County native Edwin L. Gavin (1888–1972) came to Sanford in 1916 to practice law. Known as Lee County's "Mr. Republican," he served in the state senate in 1919–20 and in 1927 was appointed U.S. district attorney for the Middle District of North Carolina. Outside the political arena, Gavin served as the first Exalted Ruler of Sanford Elks Lodge 1679 and as the state counsel for the Modern Woodmen of the World.

In 1922, Edwin and his wife Mary hired Sanford builder John B. Matthews, Jr., to build this grand Classical Revival house. The two-story frame house has a front portico supported by colossal Ionic columns and flanked by curved and balustraded terraces. Under the portico is a projecting entry vestibule, a feature that appears on other houses built by Matthews. The slate-covered hip roof is enlivened by a widow's walk, hipped side dormers, and a pedimented front dormer with a Palladian window. The front windows have pedimented surrounds, and the house is flanked by one-story wings. Inside are mantels with mirrored overmantels and mahogany parquet floors with inlaid borders.

Sources: Frances Sutton; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; 1980 Historic Lee County calendar; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; *Sanford Express*, January 4, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, July 30, 1931, and May 5, 1972; U.S. census schedules.



Edwin L. and Mary Gavin House

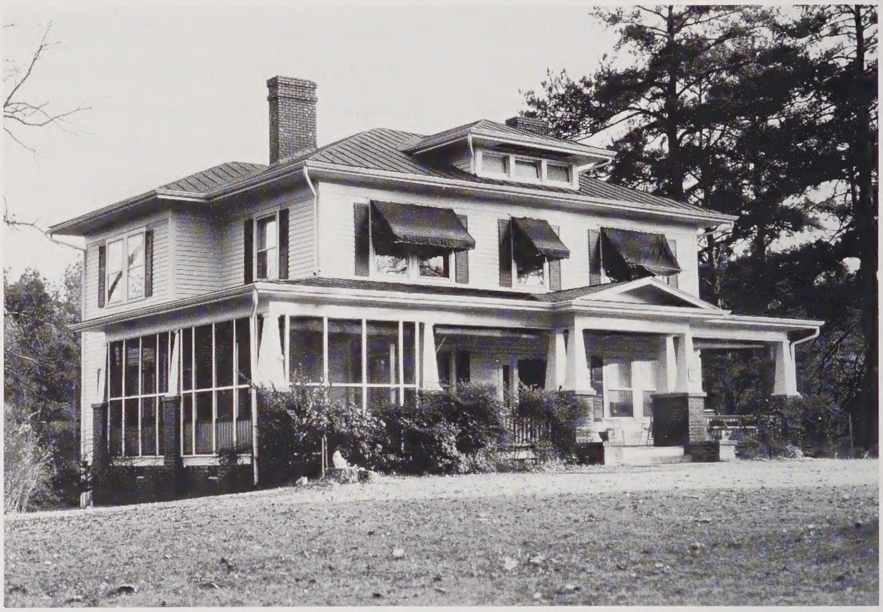
JAMES P. AND NORA McDAVID HOUSE

2123 Courtland Drive
Sanford vicinity
1923

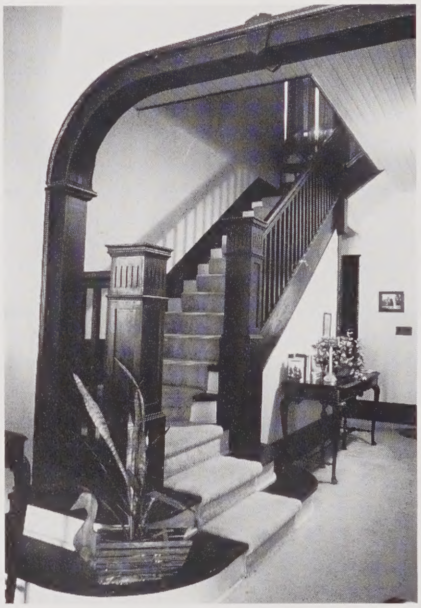
Owner: Philip H. McDavid.
Sources: Philip H. McDavid; *Progressive Farmer.*

In 1920, James P. and Nora McDavid left their cotton farm in Greenville, South Carolina, and moved to Lee County in hopes of escaping the boll weevil, which had infested the Greenville area, and to seek better schooling for their children. In 1923, they hired Jonesboro contractor James McBryde to build this two-story frame house as a duplicate of their home in South Carolina, which is said to have been featured in *Progressive Farmer*'s series on "attractive country homes." Soon after the McDavids' house was completed, Kenneth Seymour borrowed the plans to build a similar house on Carthage Street in Sanford.

The McDavid House is a Craftsman dwelling that features a low-pitched hip roof with hipped dormers and wings. The chimneys and foundation of the house were constructed from bricks produced at one of the Colon brick plants. The front porch is supported by Craftsman pillars and shelters an entry flanked by sidelights. Inside, an archway divides the center passage into front and rear sections; rising in the rear section is a stair with square newels and balusters and curved lower steps. The mantels in the first story, featuring mirrored overmantels above console-like pilasters, were produced at the Sanford Sash & Blind millworks. The living room mantel has a fireplace surround faced with glazed bricks from Pennsylvania, and the frame of the house is constructed with longleaf pine from Pender County. Nearby are a barn and storage building; to the northeast, extending along Courtland Drive, is a pecan grove set out in 1924.



James P. and Nora McDavid House



Center passage stair

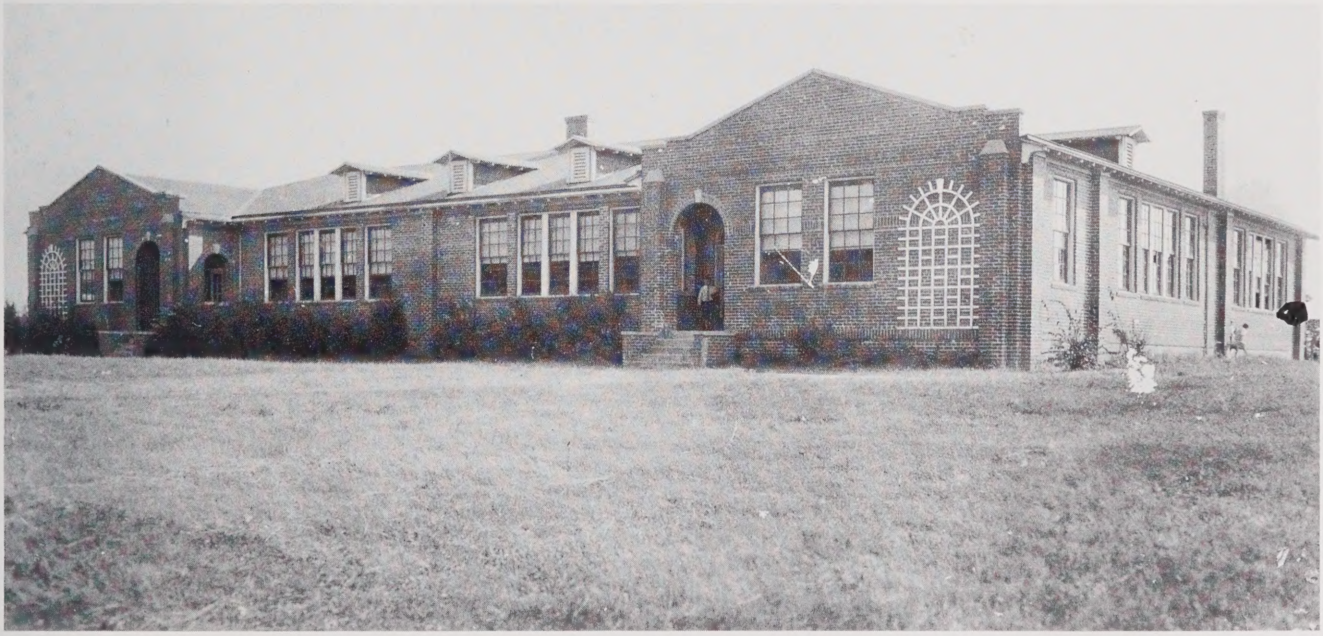
DEEP RIVER SCHOOL

Deep River Road (SR 1466)
Colon vicinity
1923–24

In 1923, the Lee County Board of Education purchased part of the Bridges property on old U.S. Highway 1 as a site for the Deep River consolidated school. The contract for the school was awarded in September 1923 to the Sanford-based Central Carolina Construction Company, which counted W. R. Makepeace and L. P. Cox among its officers, and the 9,000-square-foot core section of the building was completed by July 1924. Laboratories were built in 1933, and federal relief funds paid for the construction of a gymnasium and an addition in 1934, the year the school was accredited as a high school. As other northern Lee County schools were consolidated into Deep River School, enrollment increased from 18 students in 1929 to 272 students in 1936.

At the core of Deep River School stands a sprawling one-story brick building with a front elevation flanked by projecting wings with peaked parapets and inset arched entry porches. The plainly detailed interior features hallways with high tongue-and-groove ceilings. Clustered around the original classroom building and connected to it by modern covered walkways are later classroom annexes and an auditorium/gymnasium dating to 1957. The 1934 gymnasium stands behind the building.

Sources: Lee County Board of Education minutes, August 20 and September 10, 1923, and July 2, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, November 24, 1932, July 30, 1934, and March 16, 1936.



Deep River School (Photo ca. 1925, courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

KENNETH E. AND CARRIE B. SEYMOUR FARM

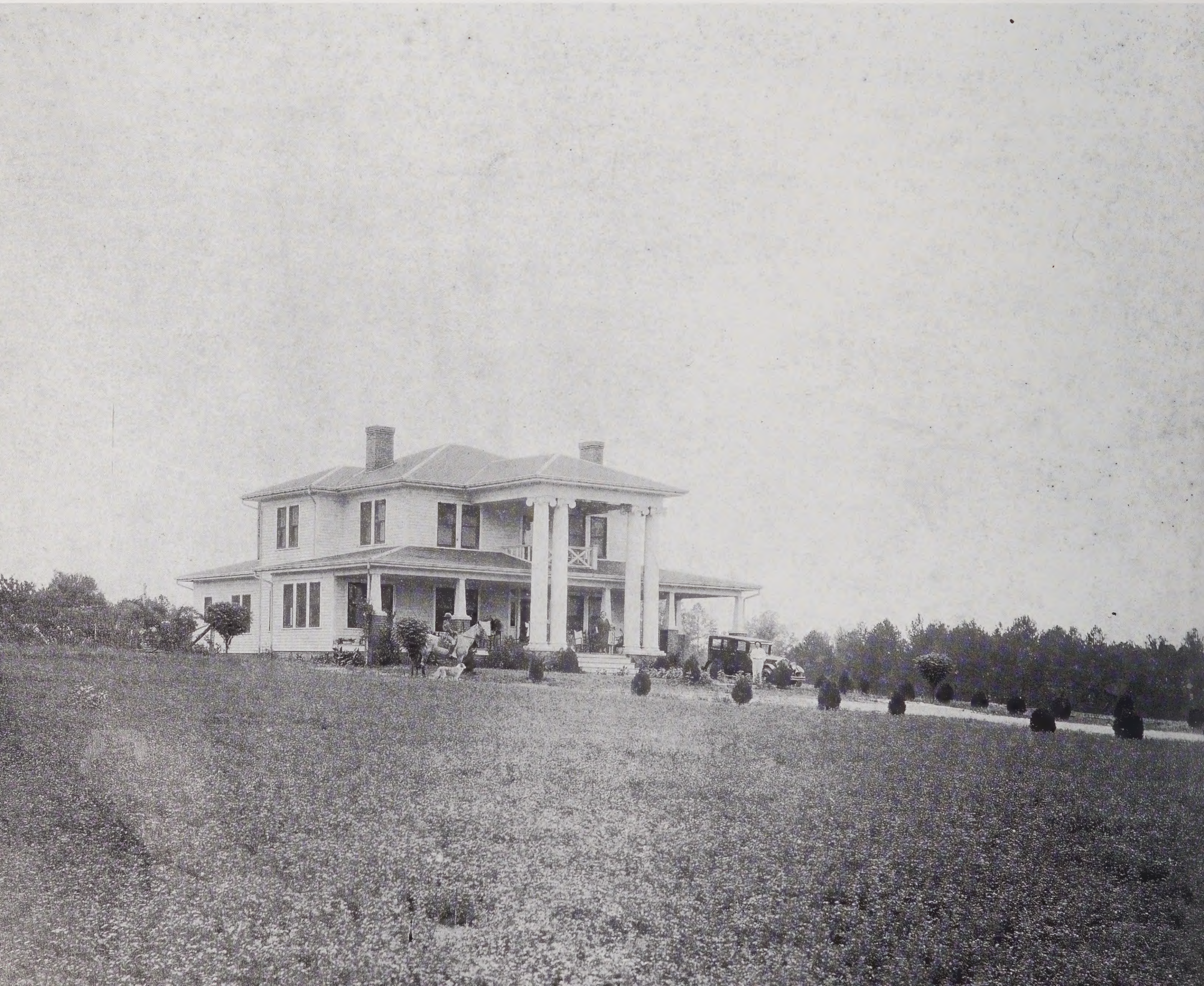
1312 Carthage Street
Sanford
Ca. 1924

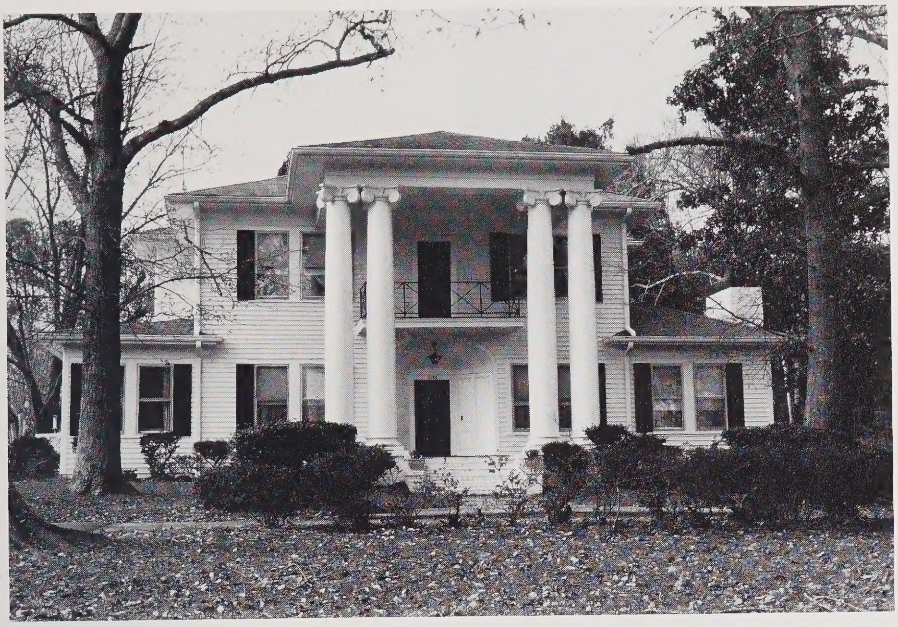
Kenneth Emmett Seymour (1886–1963) and his wife, Carrie Bowers (1891–1947), had this stately country house built about 1924. Seymour, an influential figure in Lee County legal and business circles, served as a county commissioner and a justice of the peace. He borrowed the plans for his house from Jonesboro-area farmer James P. McDavid, who had built his residence at 2123 Courtland Drive in 1923. Seymour followed the plans closely, building a one-story wraparound porch like that of the McDavid House (this porch was later removed), but he made two important changes: he added a monumental Ionic portico and extended the wraparound porch to form a porte cochere.

In 1965, the house was remodeled by architect George Smart for Kenneth and Carrie's son, Woodrow Wilson Seymour, Sr., and the original entry with sidelights and transom was replaced with the present entry in its arched recess.

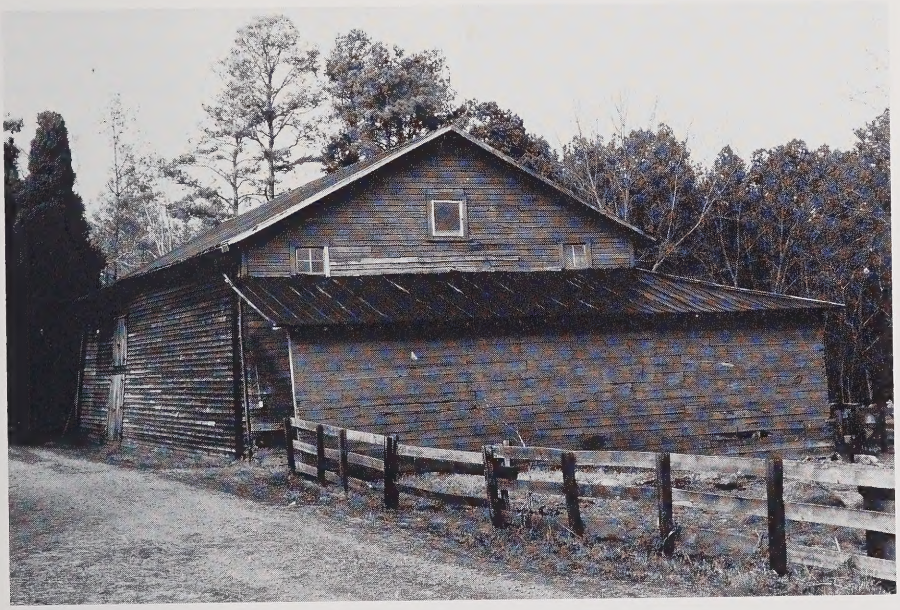
The Seymour Farm is situated on a tree-lined stretch of old US 1. A row of outbuildings, including a meat house and a garage, stands directly behind the main house. Nearby are a one-story frame dwelling built about 1940 for the Seymours' groundskeeper, and a board-and-batten tack house. To the west, along a lane leading to the antebellum John B. Matthews, Sr. House, are a large horse barn and a wagon shed.

Owner: Mrs. W. W. Seymour.
Sources: W. W. Seymour, Jr.; Philip McDavid, Lee County historian; Holshouser, *Lee County's Historical Houses*; 1981 Historic Lee County calendar; Cheney, *North Carolina Government*; U.S. census schedules.





Seymour House, 1992



Barn

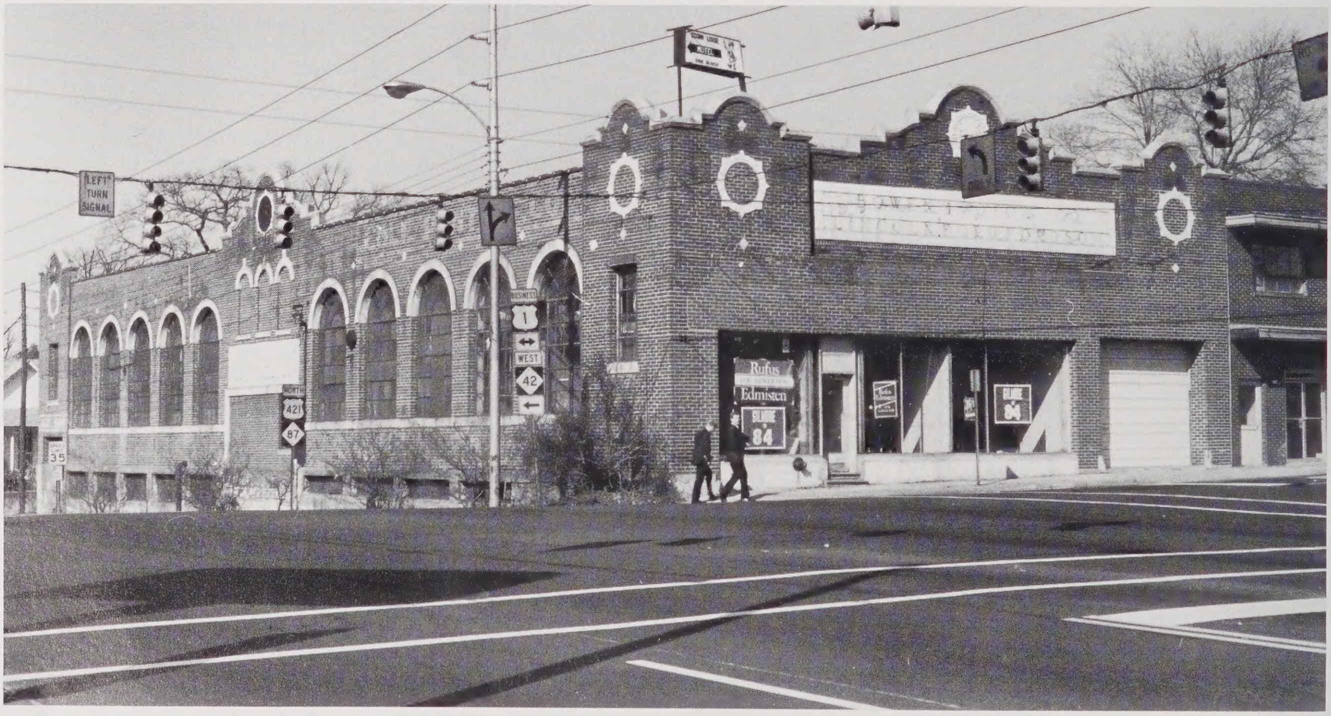
Kenneth E. and Carrie B. Seymour House (Photo 1920s, courtesy of W. W. Seymour, Jr.)

234 Carthage Street
Sanford
1925

In early 1925, the Bowen Motor Company, Sanford's Ford dealership, hired Greensboro architect James M. Workman to design this stylish showroom and garage. The Jewell-Riddle Company was awarded the contract to build the garage and had the job completed by July. At its grand opening, Bowen awarded prizes to W. E. Snipes for loading the most people (thirty-eight) onto a touring car; to J. M. B. Thomas of Broadway, age eighty-four, as the oldest man at the opening; and to others. The repair garage occupied the basement level, whereas offices with "handsome mahogany furniture" occupied the upper showroom level; the front display windows were said to have "more plate glass in [them] than any other building in Sanford." In 1929 the building was occupied by the Triangle Motor Company, and later it housed Cole Pontiac.

The one-story brick and concrete dealership is one of only a few buildings in the county to show the influence of the Mediterranean-derived styles that were popular nationally during the early 1900s. This influence is most apparent in the decorative parapets with concrete copings, the terra-cotta medallions and diamond-shaped accent blocks, and the blind arcading and arcaded windows on the Horner Boulevard elevation. The Horner Boulevard and Carthage Street elevations have glazed terra-cotta signage panels; the front one on Carthage Street reads "BOWEN MOTOR COMPANY/LINCOLN FORD FORDSON."

Sources: Sanford Express, February 27, March 6, July 24, and August 7, 1925; *Raleigh Times*, March 14, 1929.



Bowen Motor Company (Photo 1984, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

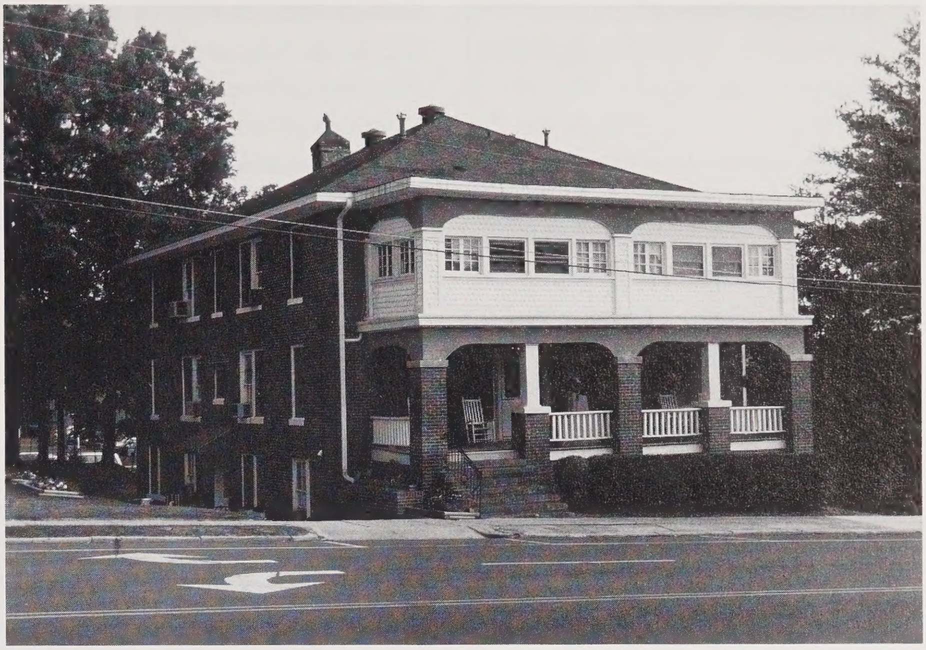
SCOTT HOSPITAL

105 Gordon Street
Sanford
1924

Dr. Charles L. Scott (b. ca. 1876) had this two-story brick sanatorium built in 1924, outfitting it with medical equipment purchased in Atlanta. Later, with the help of Dr. W. A. Monroe of the Central Carolina Hospital, Scott was instrumental in making the 1930–31 Lee County Hospital a reality. Dr. George C. Chiles practiced with Scott.

The Scott Hospital features a two-tier front porch, the lower tier with square brick pillars supporting stuccoed arch-lintels, and the upper tier enclosed with wood-shingle siding and rows of windows—it may originally have served as a sleeping porch for tuberculosis patients. An enclosed elevated walkway formerly connected the hospital to Scott's residence, which was located next door; the Scott residence was later used by Dr. Chiles for his medical practice.

Owner: LaVern Thornton.
Sources: Isabel H. Lawrence and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1; *Sanford Express*, February 8 and August 29, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, February 26, 1931, and May 15, 1953.



Scott Hospital

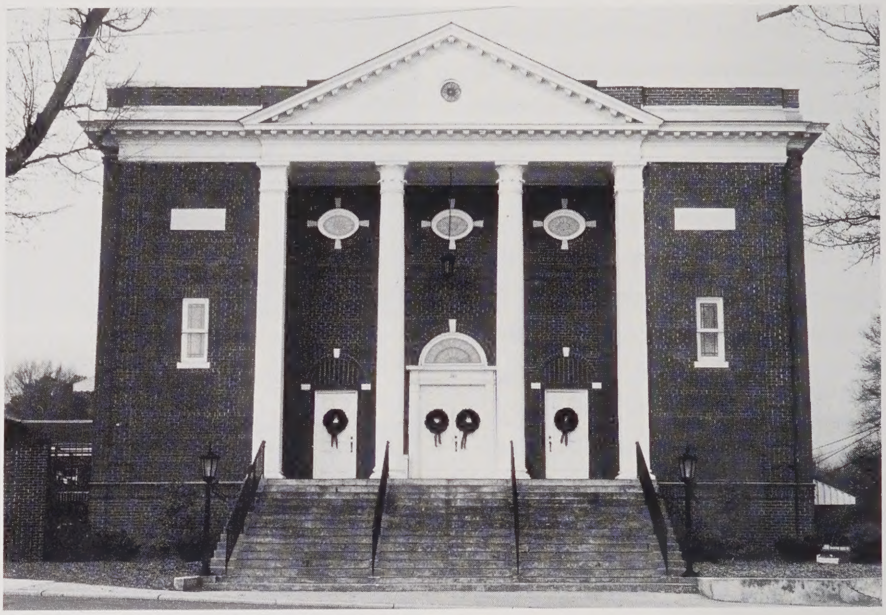
Dr. Charles L. Scott

202 Summit Drive
Sanford
1924–25

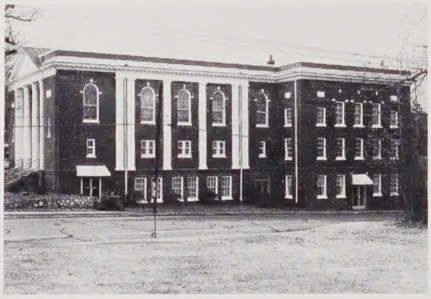
Sanford's First Baptist Church congregation, organized in December 1893 with fifteen charter members, soon built a frame church with a corner entry tower and lancet-arched windows on the north corner of Carthage and Steele streets (the site of the present Masonic Temple). In the early 1920s, the growing congregation felt the need for a larger church, and consequently a building committee was formed. The committee visited churches in Durham, Chapel Hill, and Burlington in February 1924 to get ideas for the Sanford church, and the following month, architect Herbert L. Cain of Richmond, Virginia, presented a design for "an imposing structure of the Georgian Revival style." The Chapman-Hunt Company of Oxford was chosen as the contractor. Construction on the church began in 1924, and the building's first service was conducted on June 25, 1925.

First Baptist Church is a two-story brick building of monumental scale and classical styling. The front elevation, which faces onto Summit Avenue, features a pedimented portico with two freestanding round columns flanked by square pilasters, each with acanthus-leaf capitals. In the pediment is a circular window, and a modillion cornice frames the pediment and wraps across the front and sides of the building. The Steele Street elevation is embellished by square Doric pilasters and round-arched stained glass windows. To the rear extends a three-story, forty-classroom educational wing with more restrained classical detailing, such as blind round arches over some windows and decorative white concrete panels. The sanctuary, designed to accommodate the four-hundred-member congregation of 1925, is focused on an altar recess flanked by pilasters like those of the front portico. Additions were made to the church in 1956 and 1984.

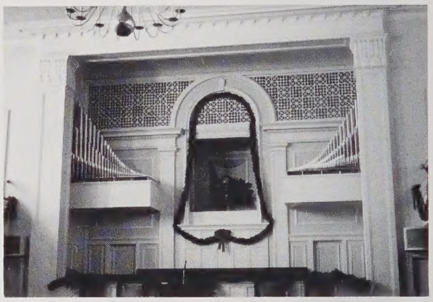
Sources: Womble, "Historical Sketch of First Baptist Church"; church records; *Sanford Express*, February 29, March 21, and June 13, 1924, and August 14, 1925; *Sanford History*.



First Baptist Church of Sanford



East elevation



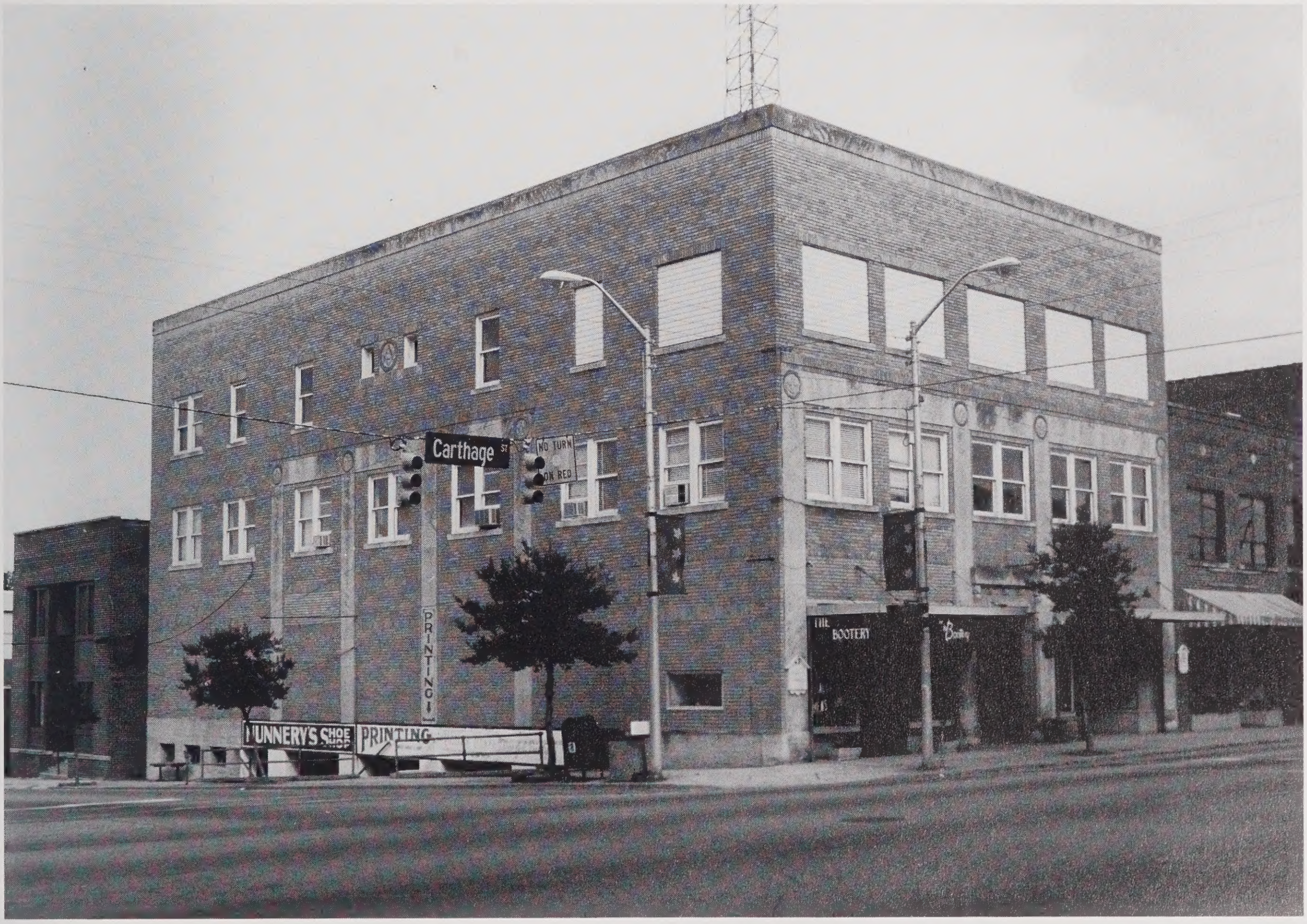
Sanctuary

130–132 Carthage Street
Sanford
1924–25

Sanford Masonic Lodge No. 469 was organized in 1894 and chartered in 1895, but its roots can be traced back to the Chalmers Lodge at Carbonton, established in 1853. Lodge No. 469 first met in the Scott Building on South Moore Street. In January 1924, it announced plans to build a three-story Masonic Temple on the north corner of Carthage and Steele streets. Sanford's L. M. Thompson was selected as the building's architect, and Joe W. Stout as the builder. In September, the cornerstone was laid containing a history of Sanford written by newspaperman P. H. St. Clair. When the temple was dedicated on September 25, 1925, architect L. M. Thompson described the building as a "magnificent monument to Masonry."

The Masonic Temple is constructed of buff-colored brick and has a crisp, boxlike form. The principal ornamentation consists of vertical and horizontal bands of Indiana limestone that form a portico-like composition on the Carthage and Steele street elevations; where the bands intersect are carved or cast circular emblems portraying the Masonic square and dividers. Over the Carthage Street entry is a stone lintel bearing the name of the building and an entablature supported by paterae-like blocks; flanking the entry are original light fixtures and reworked store fronts. The Masonic hall itself, located on the third floor, was built to hold three hundred people and was served by kitchen and banquet facilities. The Lee County Library occupied the building's second floor in the 1930s.

Sources: Isabel H. Lawrence, Lee County historian; *Sanford Express*, January 18, September 26, and November 14, 1924, and July 3, August 14, and September 25, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936.



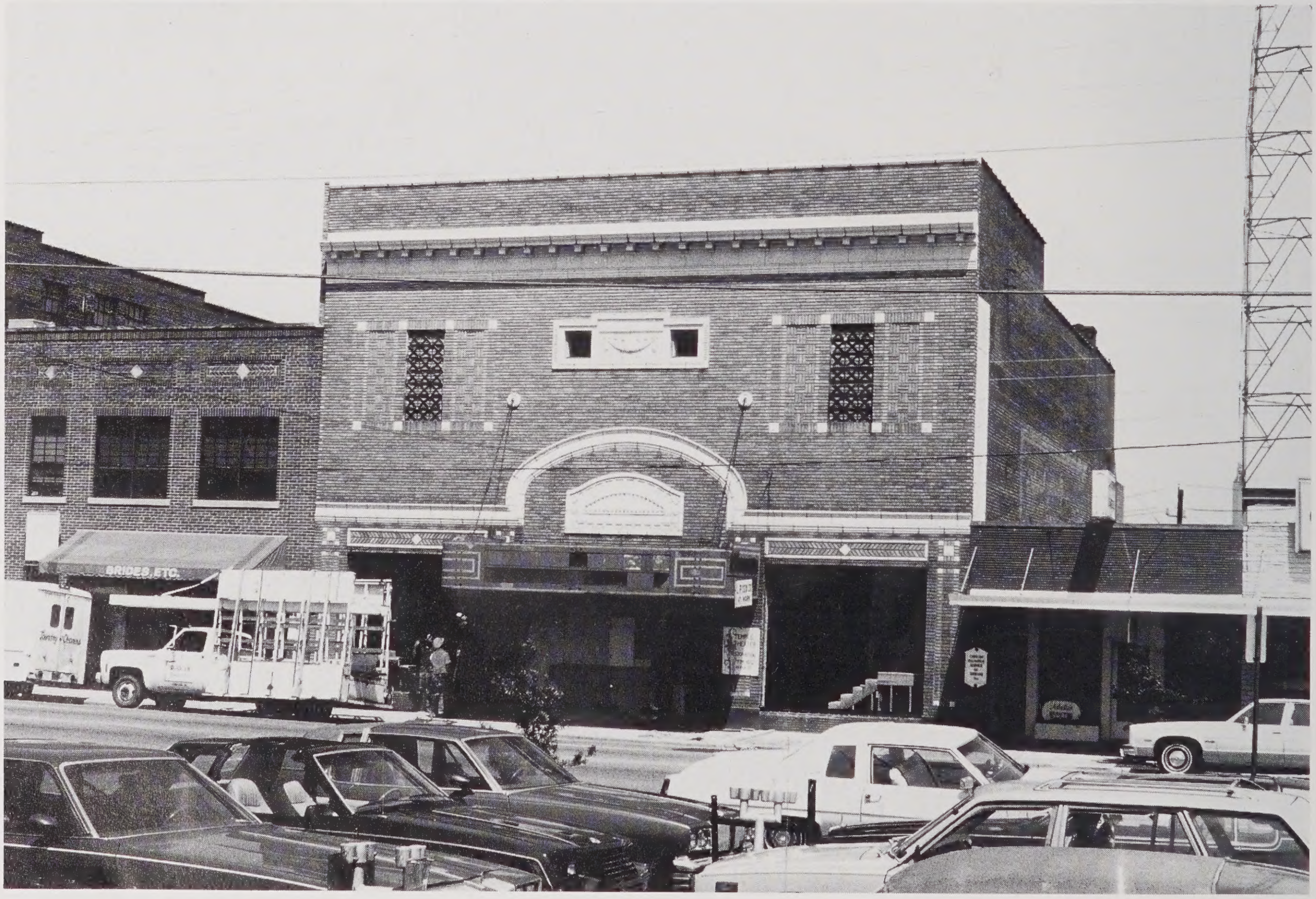
Masonic Temple (Photo ca. 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

118 Carthage Street
Sanford
1924–25

Several days after the Temple Theatre held its grand opening on March 2, 1925, the president of the Sanford Chamber of Commerce remarked, "Heretofore we have had to leave home to have an evening of real entertainment, but now a place has been made where entertainment of the right kind can be secured." The Temple Theatre was the brainchild of John R. Ingram, Sr., owner of the Sanford Coca-Cola Bottling Plant, who recognized the need for a grand cinema and vaudeville house in Sanford. Ingram hired architect Eric G. Flanagan of Henderson to design the building and Joe W. Stout to build it. Movies starring Tom Mix and Buster Keaton played during the opening week, and on March 13 the theater staged its first live performance, entitled "Models of 1925." The Temple Theatre closed in the 1960s, but it was remodeled and reopened in the 1980s and today serves as Lee County's premier playhouse.

The theater is dominated by a two-story facade of buff-colored brick trimmed in white terra-cotta. The eclectic design combines classical elements—such as a modillion cornice, a central panel with swag motif, and reticulated grilles over the two openings flanking the central panel—with Craftsman-style herringbone and basket-weave brickwork, square and diamond-shaped accent blocks, and a basket-handle arch over the marquee. The theater's auditorium features a proscenium arch; wall panels with stenciled floral and urn patterns; and a pressed metal ceiling painted cream, orange, and gold. A fire curtain with a landscape scene and advertisements for local businesses, painted by Eva Henderson, originally hung over the stage. (This curtain is now in storage off site.) Decorator Gail Brinn Wilkins Freese consulted on the building's remodeling during the 1980s.

Sources: Butchko, "Temple Theatre"; *Sanford Express*, November 21, 1924, and February 20, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, April 17, 1976.



Temple Theatre (Photo by Tom Butchko, ca. 1983, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

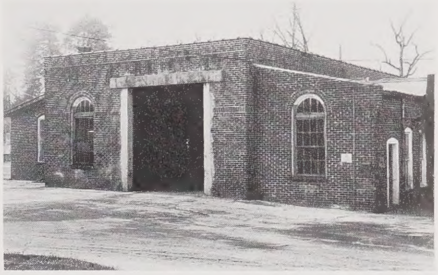
SANFORD ICE & FUEL COMPANY

320 Market Street
Sanford
Ca. 1925

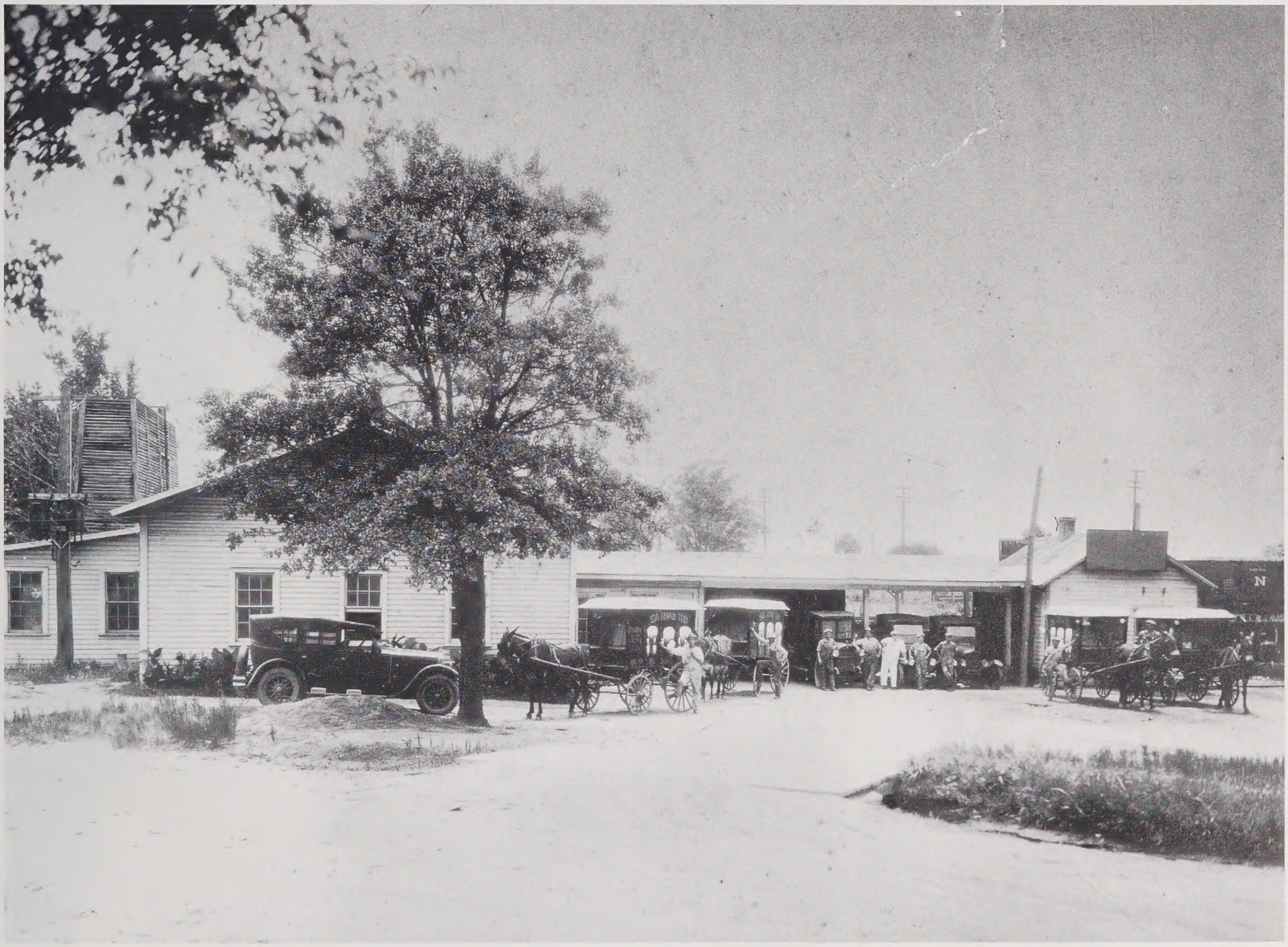
Established in 1919, the Sanford Ice & Fuel Company (also known as Sanford Ice & Coal) was the successor to an ice plant that was started by several New York entrepreneurs in 1895. During the early 1920s, the facility was owned by Moore County lumber dealer and industrialist I. F. Chandler, who specialized in the construction of cooling towers (including the one at Sanford Ice & Fuel). In 1924, the company was bought by Durham natives John Thomas Salmon (b. 1872) and A. A. Murdock, who operated an ice plant in Durham as well. The Sanford plant burned in 1925 and was rebuilt by Salmon, who was also a contractor. During the same year, it was claimed that the plant was the only operation of its kind within a forty-mile radius of Sanford. In 1951, the company switched from handling ice and coal to making concrete.

At the core of the plant is a one-story brick building with a flat roof and large round-arched windows. The utilitarian interior formerly housed a diesel engine (installed in 1933), compressors, and ice tanks. Appended to the brick building are an ice storage room with cork-lined walls and a remodeled frame wing (now used as an office) that dates to before the 1925 fire.

Sources: Bill Tatum, John T. Salmon, Jr., and Malcolm Clark; *Sanford Express*, June 5, 1925; Lee County Deed Book 6, p. 7, and Deed Book 21, p. 492; Sanborn maps.



Sanford Ice & Fuel Company, 1992



Sanford Ice & Coal Company (Photo 1920s, courtesy of the Lutterloh family, Miss Lora Smith, and the Suzanne Reeves Library)

HOTEL WILRIK

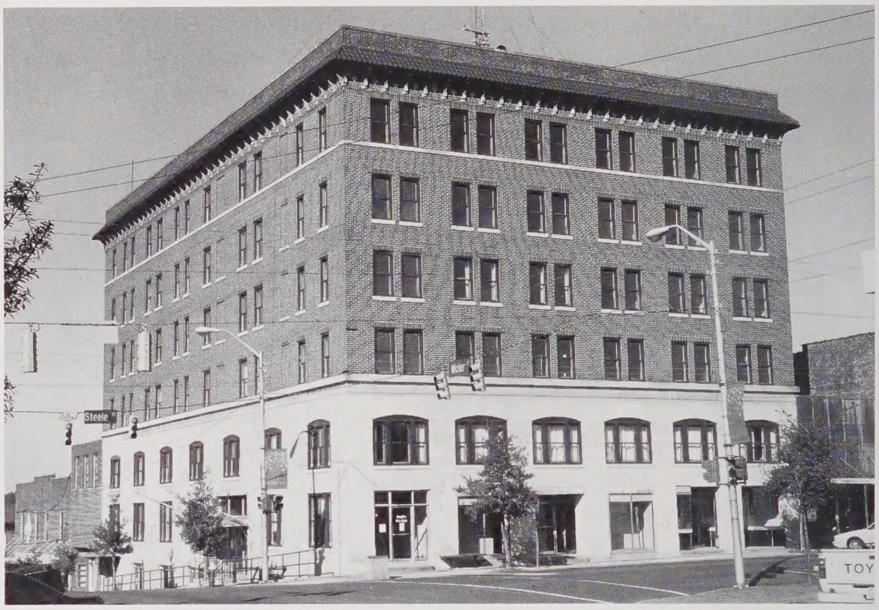
200 Wicker Street
Sanford
1924–25

When downtown Sanford's Hotel Wilrik was under construction in November 1924, the *Sanford Express* predicted that the town's first "sky scraper" would "put Sanford on the map." The Wilkins-Ricks Company, hardware and agricultural suppliers, announced plans to build the six-story hotel in May 1924. The building was designed by Greensboro architect C. Gadsden Sayre and built by Joe W. Stout & Company; Stout was also president of the operating company that leased the hotel. Subcontractors on the project included plumber W. H. Gurley and painter E. G. Andrews of Sanford; the Sanford Sash & Blind Company; plasterer D. Draddy & Company and the C. F. Shuman Roofing Company of Charlotte; heating specialists Hunt Brothers of Greensboro; and Otto Tuefel and H. H. Wood of the Albert Puck Company of Chicago, who installed furnishings and decorations.

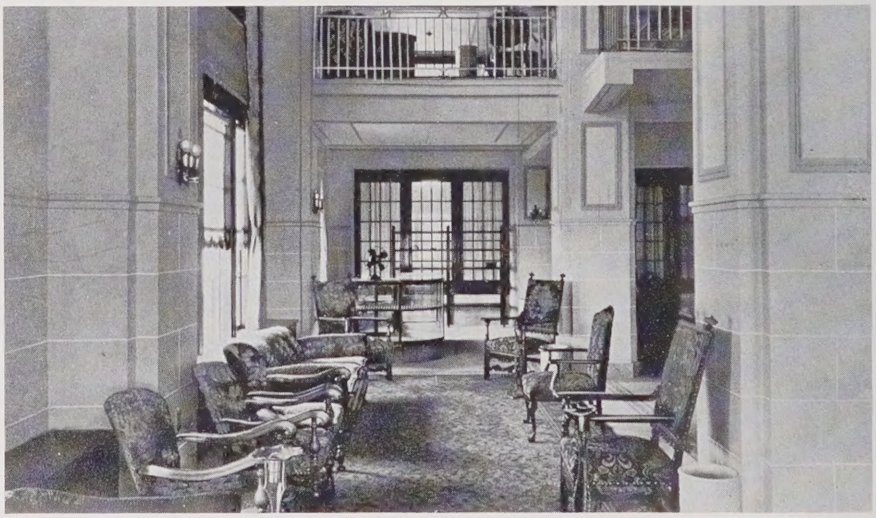
When the Wilrik officially opened in August 1925, manager S. Vance Scott guided throngs of curious visitors through the building's formal spaces. The first banquet was served to the Sanford Rotary Club and included grapefruit cocktail, fried chicken, California peach salad, and other dishes. The Lee County Chamber of Commerce was the building's first commercial tenant, and by October 1925, four barbers had set up shop in the hotel basement. The building was popular as both a commercial and residential hotel during the 1930s and 1940s and as a location for dances and other social events as late as the 1950s. In recent years the Wilrik served as county office space.

The Wilrik is constructed with a reinforced concrete frame on a foundation of concrete and brownstone. The basement level and first two stories are faced in white Washington Hydraulic re-pressed brick and Indiana limestone, and the upper stories are faced in red brick. Capping the facade is a green tile pent roof supported by brackets alternating with diamond accent blocks. The main spaces of the interior are the lobby and dining room, each originally with a mezzanine level, and a second-story ballroom with gold-framed mirrors at its two ends. A stone pool and fountain once adorned the lobby. Classical detailing, historic light fixtures, and vestiges of atmospheric jazz painting survive on the interior.

Sources: Nancy M. Griffin and Isabel H. Lawrence, Lee County historians; *Sanford Express*, May 9 and 16 and November 28, 1924, and July 3 and 24, August 7 and 14, and October 25, 1925.



Hotel Wilrik



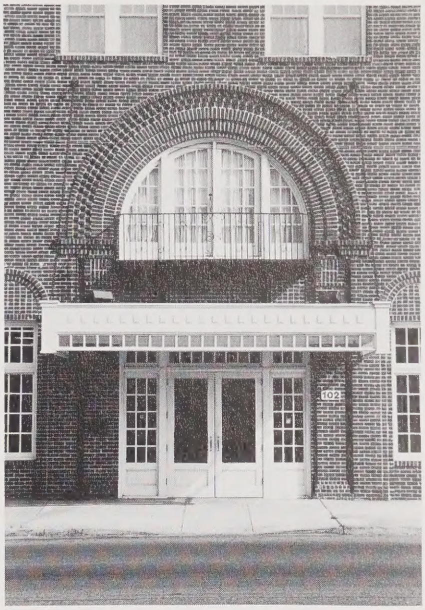
Lobby (Photo 1920s, courtesy of W. W. Seymour, Jr.)

102 Carthage Street
Sanford
1926–27

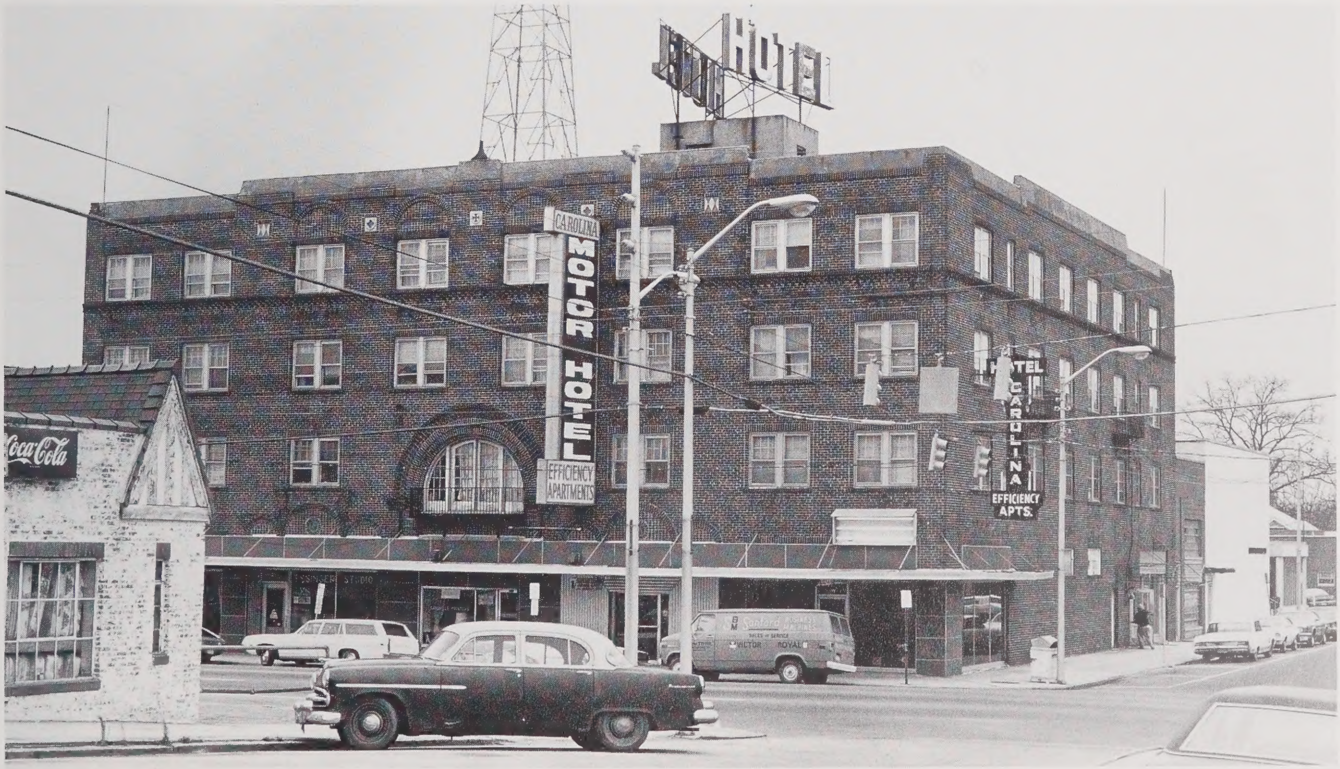
As the finishing touches were being put on the Hotel Wilrik, O. P. Makepeace and Frank Snipes announced plans to build another hotel at the corner of Carthage and Moore streets. L. M. Thompson prepared plans for the building in May 1925, construction began in 1926, and the hotel was fully operational by 1929. The interior was painted "with the combined texture-and-tone effects that are now so popular"—a technique known as jazz painting. In 1929, the Carolina advertised itself as "Sanford's Newest Fireproof Hotel . . . Typically Southern in service, food and hospitality." The four-star hotel contained a coffee shop and a dining room known as the Medallion Room.

The Carolina Hotel is a brick and concrete building with four store fronts and a lobby entry on Carthage Street. Above the lobby entry, a set of French doors open onto an iron balcony, the ensemble encompassed by a large round arch bordered with decorative brickwork. Flanking this arch—the focal point of the facade—are smaller relieving arches that contain medallions with terra-cotta rampant lion figures. Similar relieving arches also appear in the parapet alongside square terra-cotta plaques containing quatrefoil, cross, and diamond motifs. Other exterior features include paired six-over-six-sash windows and a corbeled belt course at the level of the fourth-story windowsills. The Carolina was successfully rehabilitated as housing during the late 1980s.

Sources: Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; *Sanford Express*, May 15, 1925, and September 23, 1926; *Raleigh Times*, March 14, 1929; *Sanford Herald*, May 15, 1953.



Carthage Street entrance



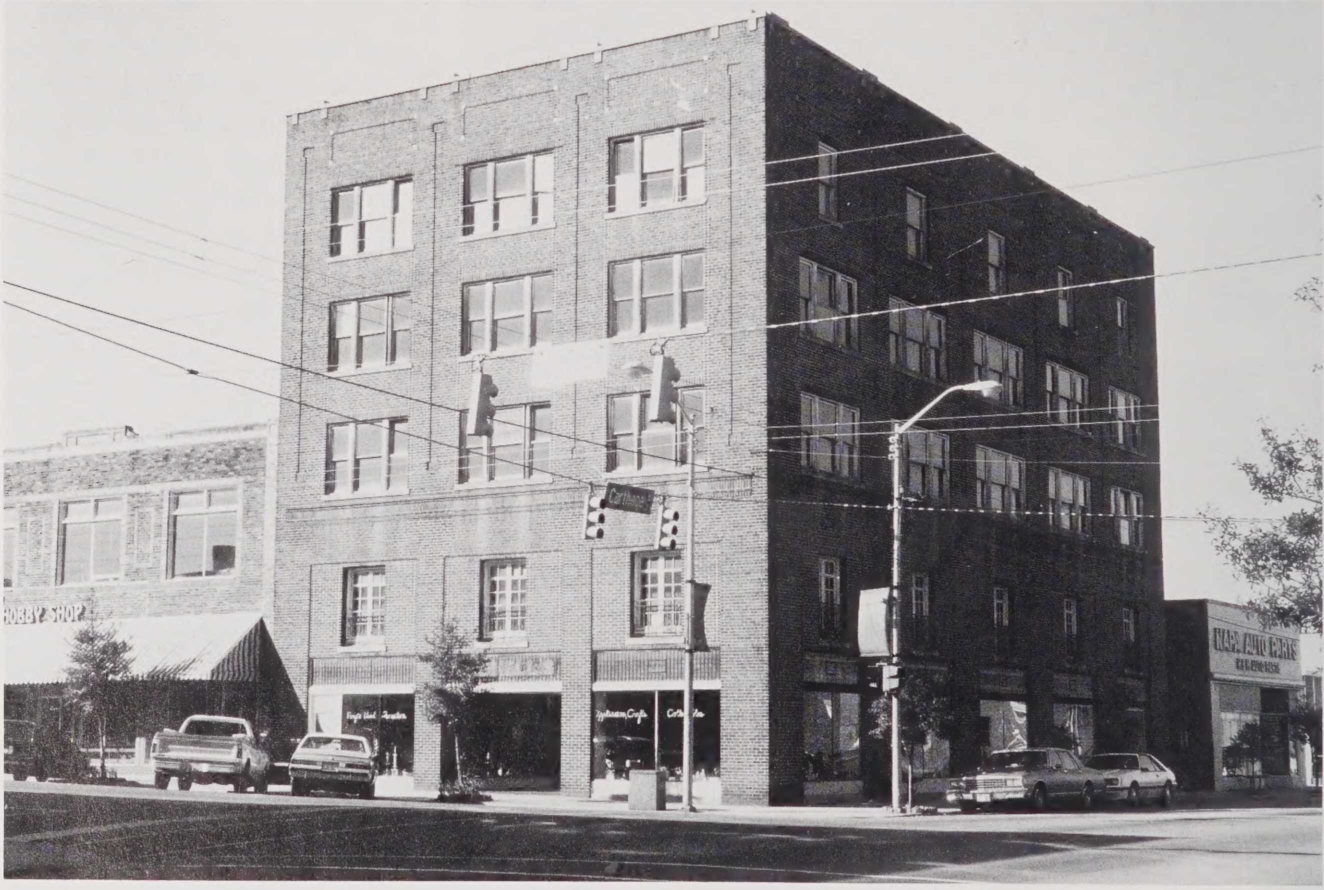
Carolina Hotel (Photo ca. 1975, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)

102 South Steele Street
Sanford
1925

The Lee Furniture Company, established about 1911, operated from the Foushee Building at 219 Chatham Street in 1914. The company prospered in the early 1920s, first opening a branch in Lillington in 1924, and in July 1925 announcing plans to build a high-rise brick and steel showroom and office building on the south corner of Carthage and Steele streets. By 1926, contractor Joe W. Stout and site manager Scott Thomas had completed work on the building. At five stories in height and forty-eight feet by ninety feet in plan, the building stood as the county's largest retail house. The Sanford Business College moved into the building's upper stories, and in later years the Avent-Thomas department store occupied the ground floor.

The Lee Furniture Building is plain in appearance; for visual effect it relies solely on the modulation of its fenestration and the lines and planes defined by its restrained brickwork. At street level are large display windows with prism-glass transoms; above them are French doors with ornamental metal grilles (suggesting balcony railings) that incorporate the monogram "LF." A slightly projecting belt course of soldier-bond brickwork divides the two lower stories—the "base" of the building—from the upper stories, which have one-over-one-sash windows, vertical bands of brickwork, and a parapet with brick panels and a concrete coping. The grand space of the showroom on the first level features a mezzanine supported by paneled square columns.

Sources: William M. Freeman, Lee County historian; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; *Sanford Express*, February 8 and October 3, 1924, and July 31, August 14, and September 11, 1925, and October 28, 1926.



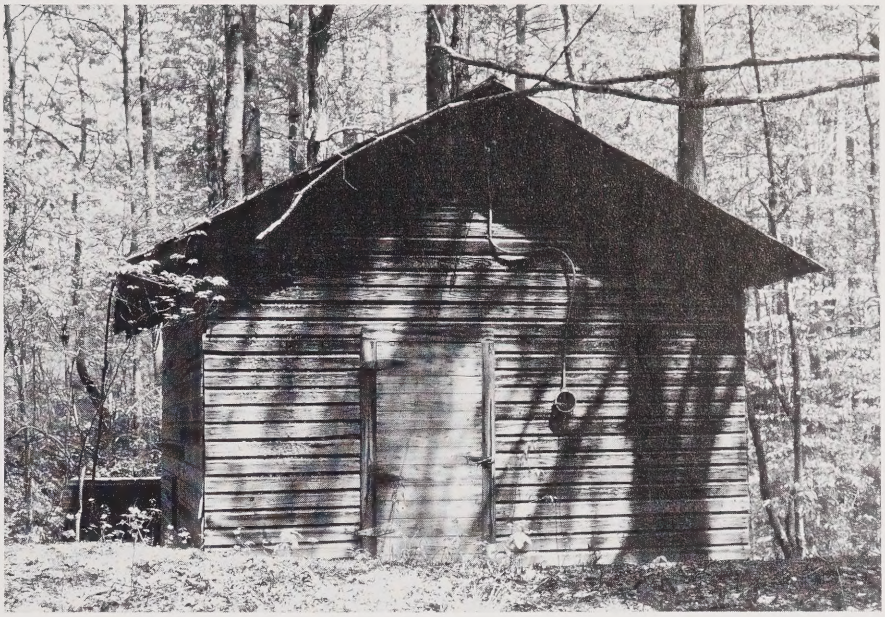
Lee Furniture Building

KELLY MILL

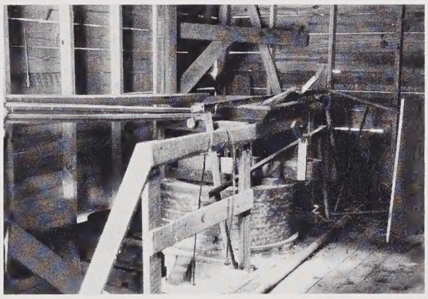
Bradley Road (SR 1542)
Broadway vicinity
Ca. 1925

Joe Kelly had this diminutive turbine-powered gristmill built about 1925, although a mill may have stood at the location earlier. The mill was kept in operation until the 1970s, and except for novelty siding added in the 1950s, it has remained virtually unchanged since it was built. A millpond formed by the damming of Daniels Creek supplies water to the turbine, located at the bottom of a brick and concrete shaft next to the mill. The turbine operates a series of belts and gears that spin a pair of millstones set up in one corner of the mill. A hopper for feeding grain to the stones, a crane for lifting the stones, and chutes to carry off the grind are located next to the millstones. The Kelly Mill, millpond, and waterfall spillway form one of the Broadway area's most picturesque locales.

Owner: James R. Thomas.
Sources: James R. Thomas; *Sanford Herald*, August 18, 1962.



Kelly Mill



Millstone housing and crane

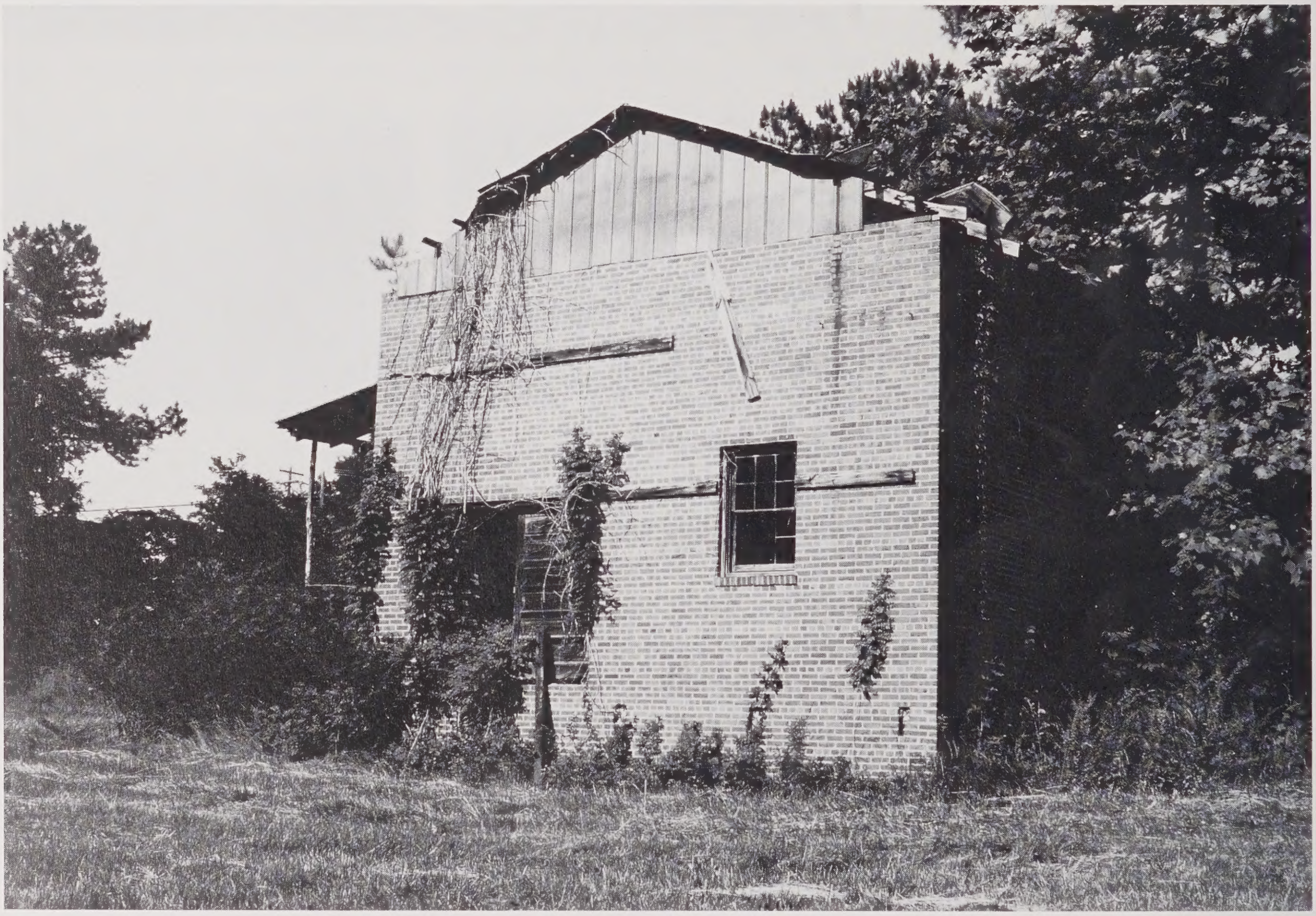
Millpond

Walker Road
Swann's Station
1926

The first recorded cotton gins in Swann's Station were operated by Earl Lamm and Will Sykes during the late 1800s. In the late 1910s or early 1920s, J. D. Walker and France McLeod established a cotton gin and lumber mill behind the Walker Brothers Store, and in 1926, the partnership built this cotton ginhouse on the west edge of the village; it operated into the 1940s.

The ginhouse is a large and plainly detailed brick building with evidence of former loading docks, and a circular opening through which lint and seeds were once conveyed to the outside. Inside are machinery emplacements (including one suspended from the open truss roof) and a large circular opening in the floor.

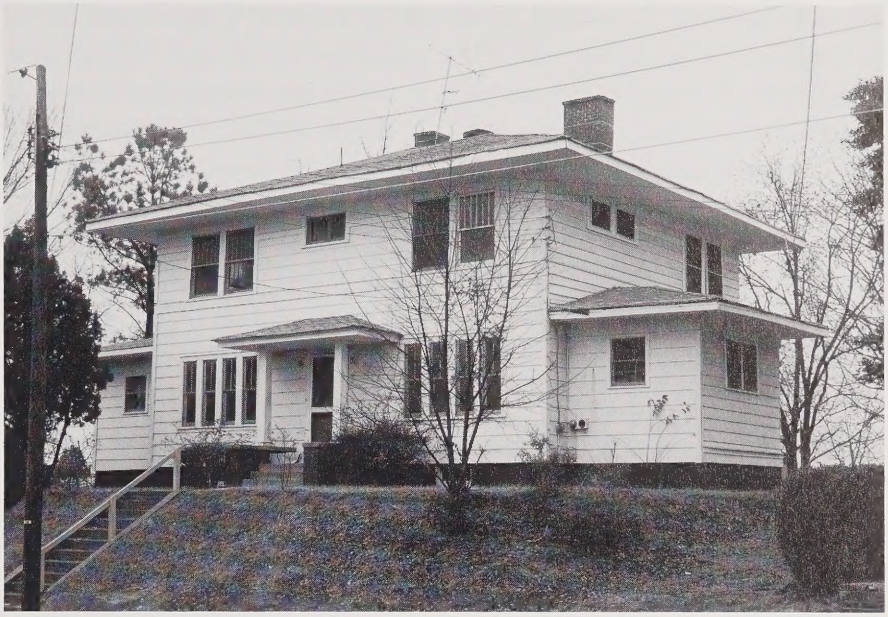
Owner: Mrs. H. E. Sharpe.
Sources: Sanford Herald, March 17 and April 3, 1976; business directories.



Walker & McLeod Cotton Gin

A. LINCOLN AND LULA BOYKIN HOUSE

705 Wall Street
Sanford
Ca. 1925

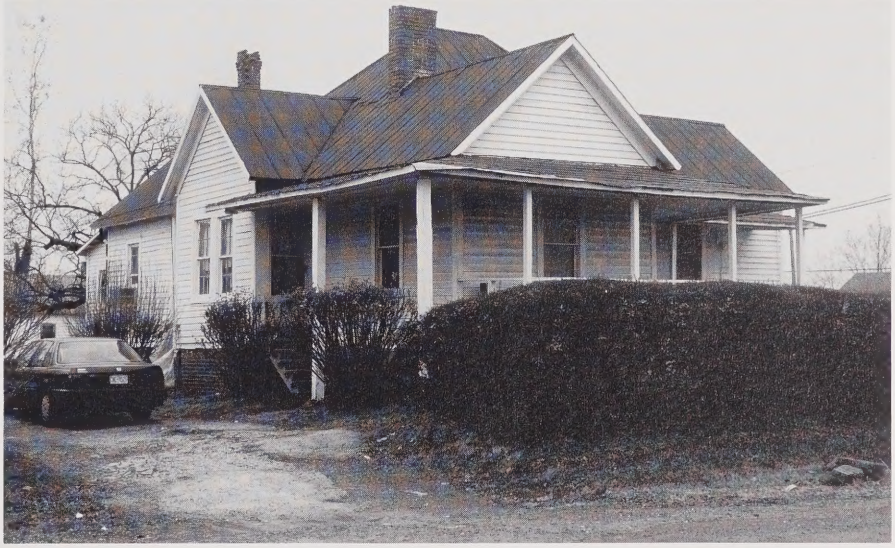


A. Lincoln and Lula Boykin House, 705 Wall Street

Builder Arnold Lincoln "Link" Boykin began to purchase lots on Wall Street about 1910, and he built this architecturally advanced two-story frame house about 1925 for himself and his wife Lula. Boykin may have been assisted in the design of the house by his son, Arnold Edward Boykin, who at the time had just completed three years of study in architectural engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. A. E. Boykin later joined his father's construction business. The Boykin House melds elements of the Craftsman and Prairie styles, evident in its low-pitched hip roof with broadly overhanging eaves, the banks of narrow windows on the first story, and the six-over-one-sash windows on the second story. The house also has one-story side wings, front and rear stoops, and brick chimneys.

Owners: James Arnold Bell and Robert M. Bell, Jr.

Sources: James A. Bell and Anita Bryant; Mary McLean, Eugene E. McKoy, Helen Hill, and Zenobia Sellars, longtime neighborhood residents; MIT Registrar's Office; Lee County deeds; Sanborn maps.



The Boykins' earlier residence at the corner of Pearl and South Moore streets

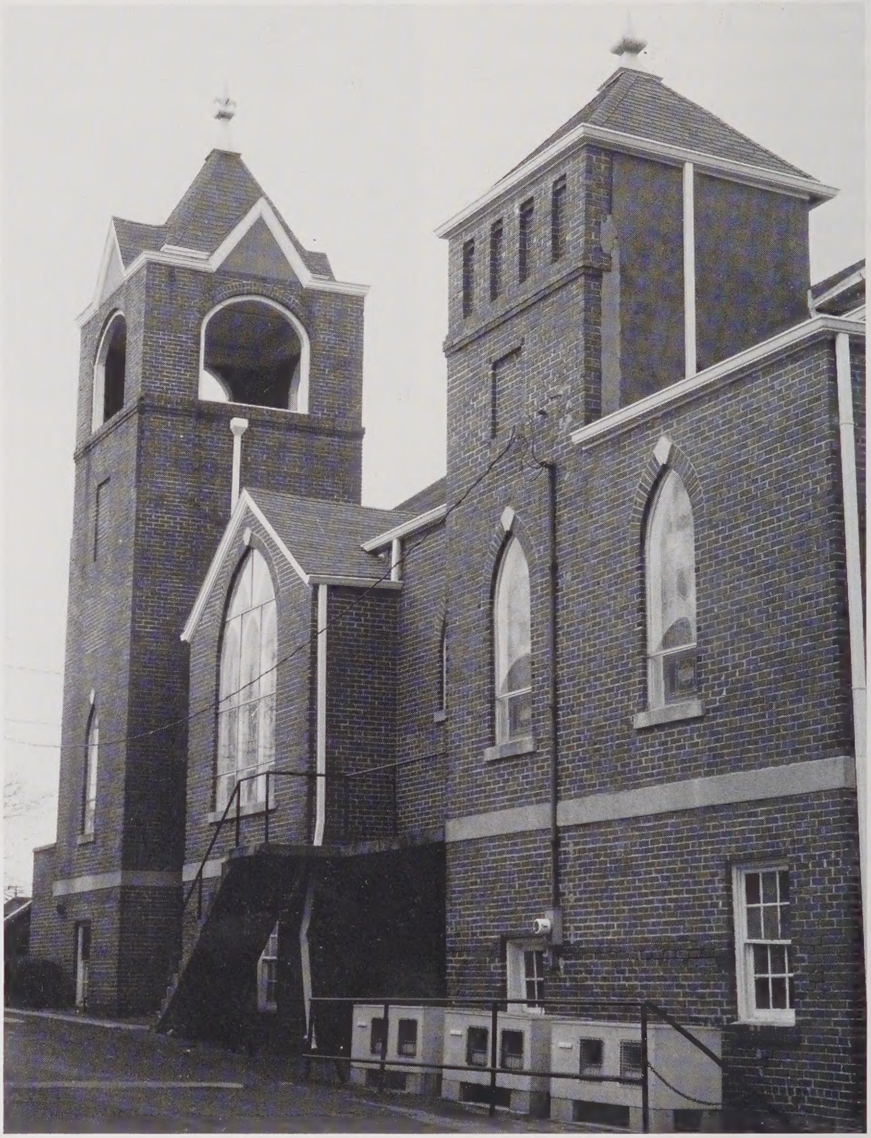
FAIR PROMISE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

712 Wall Street
Sanford
1926

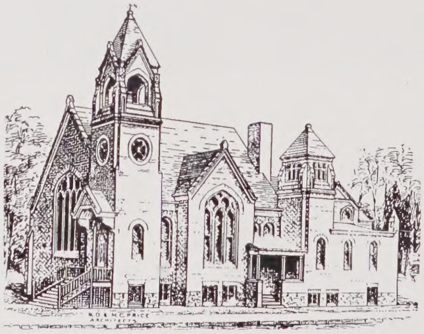
Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Church ranks among Sanford's earliest congregations, and its original chapel was apparently the first church building to stand in the downtown. The small board-and-batten chapel was built in 1871, only three years after the congregation was organized; it was replaced in 1891 by a nave-form frame building with a front tower. The present brick building was erected in 1926 during the pastorate of J. J. Wells. The contractor was church member A. Lincoln Boykin, assisted by carpenter Daniel White and brickmasons Daniel and Houston Goldston and the Hooker brothers. Boykin modeled his building on a design published by Philadelphia-area architects Benjamin D. and Max Charles Price, who specialized in the sale of mail-order designs for Methodist and Baptist churches.

Fair Promise Church features a corner entry tower with arched belfry openings and a pyramidal roof with gabled projections and a decorative metal finial. On the front gable is a large lancet-arched stained glass window; similar but smaller windows appear on the side elevations. Rising on the west elevation is a secondary tower with blind rectangular recesses at its top and a pyramidal roof. Inside, the sanctuary occupies the front of the building and has a ceiling with open roof trusses. To one side of the sanctuary is the original Sunday school room, now used as extra worship space. The small front yard contains a sign and commemorative display that includes the brownstone cornerstone of the 1891 church building.

Sources: Mary McLean, Eugene E. McKoy, and Zenobia Sellars, church members; Wells, "Historical Sketch"; Wells and Dalton, *Virginia Architects*; Lee County Superior Court Judgment 5848; Moore County Deed Book 4, p. 529, and Deed Book 20, p. 141.



Fair Promise A.M.E. Zion Church



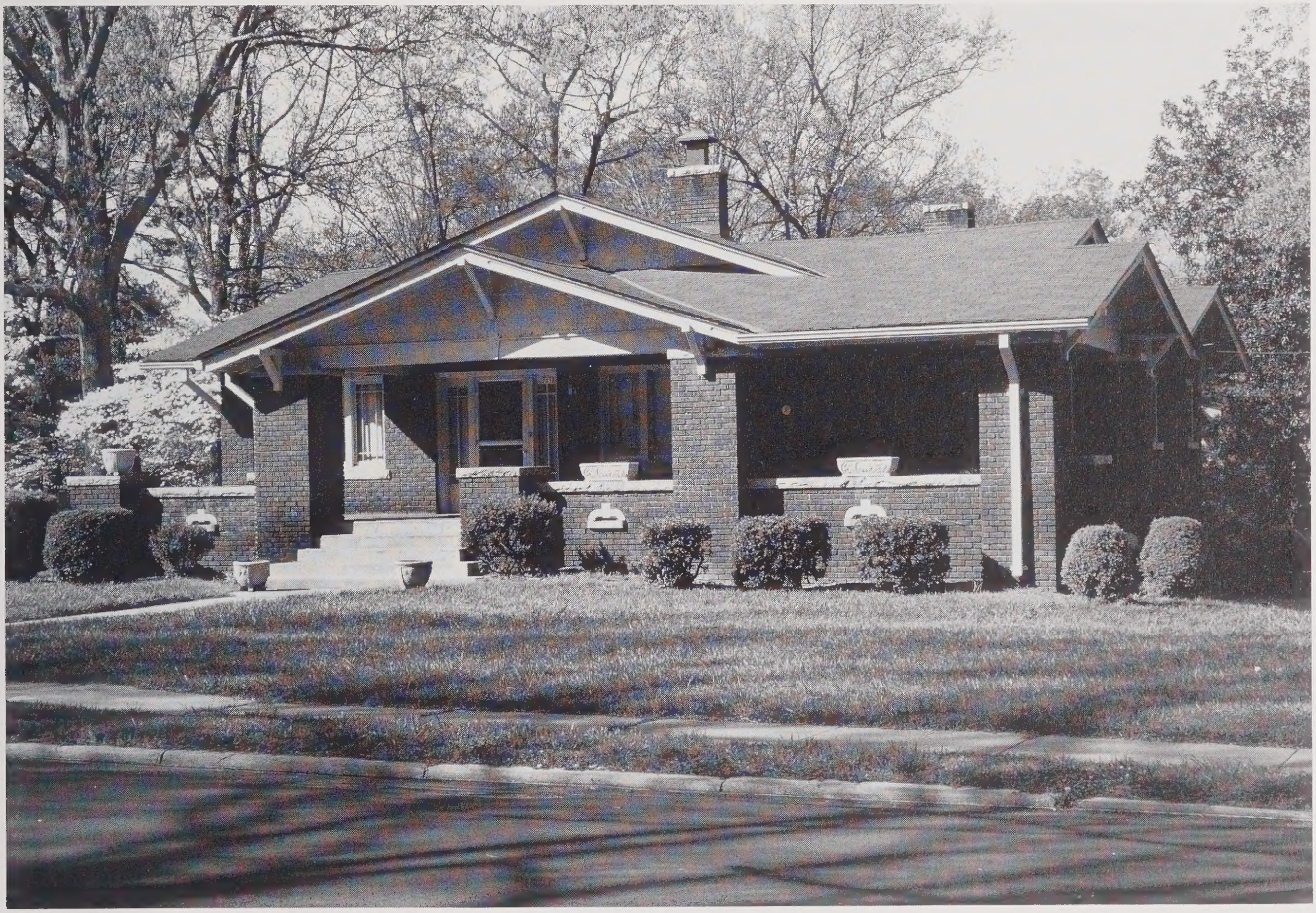
Design for church by architects Benjamin D. and Max Charles Price

205 North Gulf Street
Sanford
1926

George J. Casey, an executive of the Isenhour Brick Company, moved into this stylish bungalow with his wife Mary Isenhour Casey in the summer of 1926. The Caseys had chosen the design for the house from a published plan by Atlanta architect Lelia Ross Wilburn, and they hired Jewell-Riddle Company as their builder. Not surprisingly, the brick for the house was produced at Isenhour Brick, owned by Mrs. Casey's father, Lewis C. Isenhour.

The Casey House is a one-story Craftsman-style brick dwelling; its layered and broadly overhanging low-pitched roofs have stuccoed gables, and its engaged front porch is supported by stout brick pillars. Various details allude to other styles popular during the 1920s: the decorative muntins of some windows derive from the Prairie style, and the granite scuppers at the base of the porch wall have a squat Mayan appearance. The arched brick fireplaces and other interior details echo the eclectic and Craftsman styling of the exterior. Original decorative concrete walks and elaborate plantings characterize the yard.

Owner: Mary Isenhour Casey.
Sources: Mary Isenhour Casey; Toni Wrenn; Wells and Dalton, *South Carolina Architects*, 205–6; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; Brickhouse, "Sanford Brick Corporation"; *Sanford Express*, February 27, 1925.



George J. and Mary I. Casey House

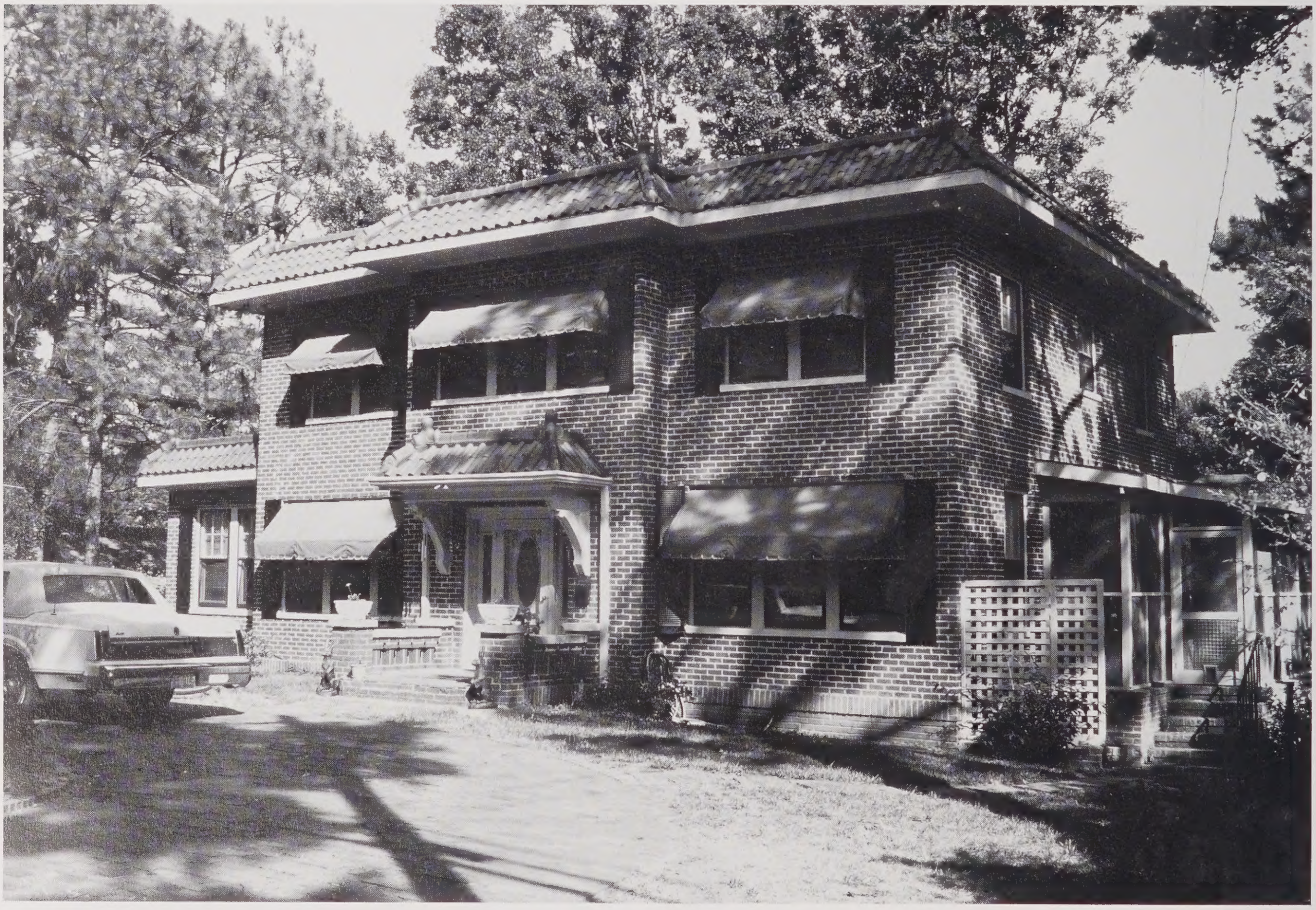
COULTER-LANO HOUSE

503 Sunset Drive
Sanford
Ca. 1926

In the 1920s, Mediterranean-inspired styles were popular for motels and other service structures built in Lee County along US 1, an evocation of the Spanish heritage of sunny Florida at the end of the road. About 1926, Ida Coulter sold her late husband J. P. Coulter's jewelry store and hired A. Lincoln Boykin to build this Mediterranean tourist home one block north of the "National Highway." The house stands next to the J. P. and Ida Coulter residence in what at the time was the newly developed McIver Park subdivision. In 1928, the house was auctioned to Charles A. Lano, who had come to Sanford from Goldsboro in 1925 to supervise the construction of the Borden Brick & Tile plant. Lano remained with Borden until his death in 1950.

The main two-story section and several one-story wings of the brick house feature ceramic tile visor roofs with metal crestings. The front entry, set in a projecting bay, has sidelights and a small tiled pent roof. The terraced lawn has a number of notable modern landscape features, including a circular brick drive.

Owner: Jimmy Haire.
Sources: Jimmy Haire and Ruby T. Maxwell, Lee County historians; *Sanford Express*, May 6, 1924, and July 10, 1925.



Coulter-Lano House

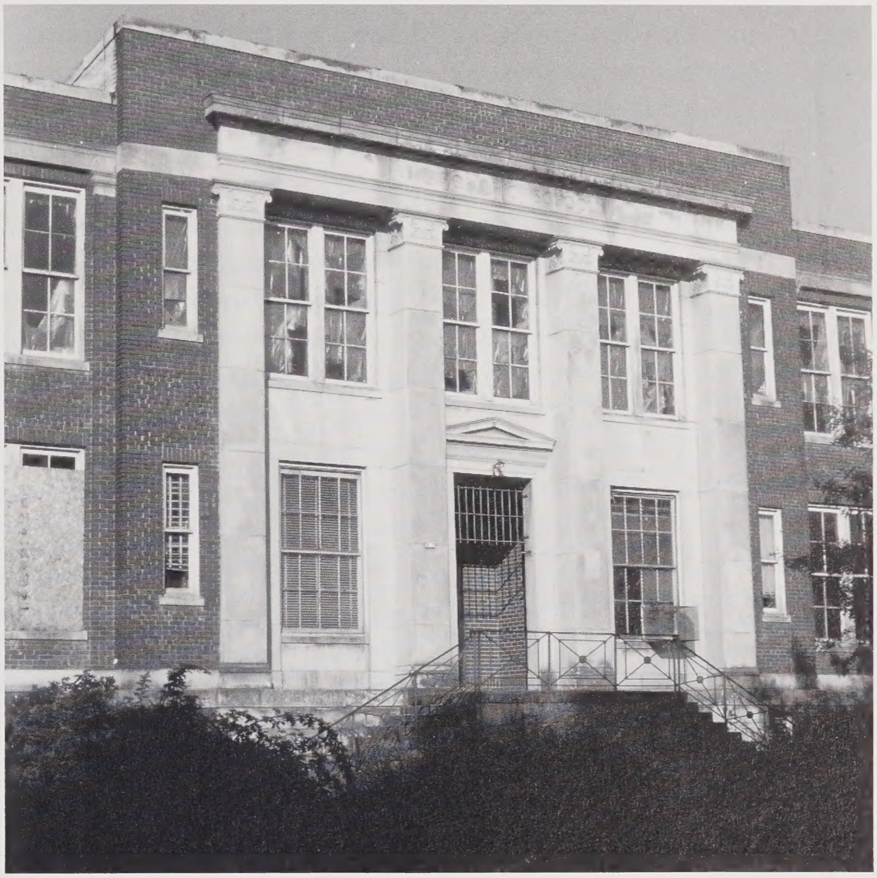
SANFORD HIGH SCHOOL

507 North Steele Street
Sanford
1924–25

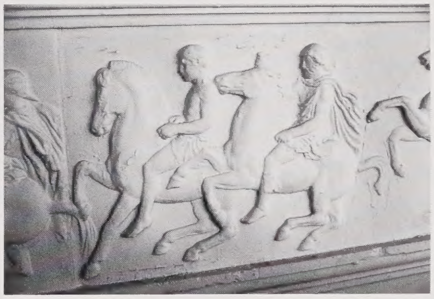
The former Sanford High School is a large and architecturally sophisticated building constructed in 1924–25. The Classical Revival brick building was designed by architect George Berryman of Wilson, Berryman, & Kennedy, specialists in public school design. The principal facade faces Steele Street and has a tripartite form with a concrete-faced central pavilion and flanking pavilions. The central pavilion projects slightly and is enlivened by pilasters with stylized capitals, a pedimented entry recess with a portcullis-like grate, and steps with decorative metal railings. The north flanker, which provides access to the auditorium and gymnasium wing, has molded concrete ornament and open bays in place of windows and doors. The other wall surfaces feature brick pilasters and banks of classroom windows.

The principal space on the interior is the auditorium, which originally contained seven hundred seats on a lower level and three hundred seats in the balcony. The auditorium is distinguished by classically inspired molded plaster ornament, including a proscenium arch bordered by paterae, a balcony railing with panels depicting figures in education-related poses, and a handsome frieze with plaster relief figures inspired by the Parthenon in Athens. The former Sanford High School was made into a middle school in 1951, and in recent years has served as a community arts center.

Sources: Catherine W. Bishir; McLaughlin, "Sanford High School"; Sanford Board of Education minutes, December 10, 1923, and April 18, 1924; *Sanford Express*, February 8, 1924, and March 13, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, March 17, 1976; Sanborn maps.



Sanford High School, North Steele Street entrance



Detail of frieze in auditorium

Patera from proscenium arch in auditorium

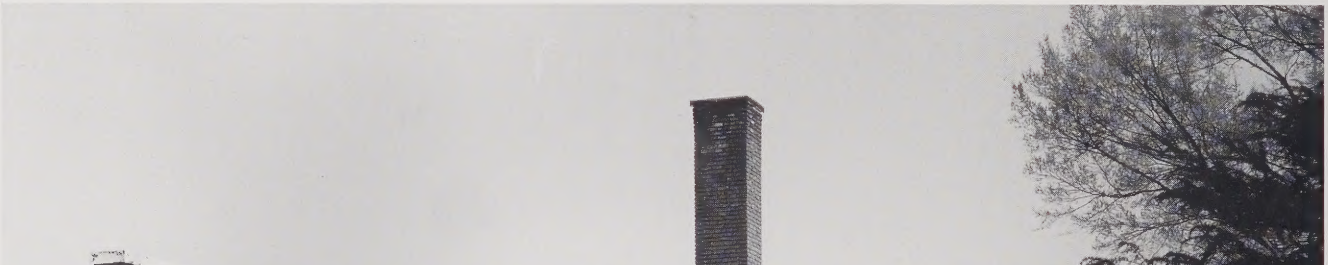
W. B. WICKER SCHOOL (LEE COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL)

806 South Vance Street
Sanford
1927

A public school served Sanford's African-American community by the late 1800s, and in the early 1900s a two-story, five-classroom building known as the South Sanford Graded School was built on Washington Avenue. William B. Wicker became principal of the school in 1924, and through his hard work enrollment increased, making a new and larger school building necessary. The result was the Lee County Training School, a one-story brick building designed by architect H. B. Hunter and built by A. Lincoln Boykin in 1927 with financial support from the Rosenwald Fund and technical assistance from Sanford architect L. M. Thompson. A gymnasium and agricultural building were built in 1934 by federal relief workers, and additional classroom buildings were built after World War II. The facility was renamed W. B. Wicker School in 1954 and was made into a middle school in 1969.

Architecturally, the dominant feature of the school is the front entry: an arched recess is juxtaposed with a boiler flue, creating a composition that is decidedly industrial in appearance. The flue is a vertical element in an elevation that is otherwise horizontal, a continuous row of large windows broken only by the brick piers marking classroom divisions. On the rear elevation a series of round-arched windows light the original auditorium. The school began with ten classrooms and by 1947 had been enlarged to twenty-five classrooms; a basement story and a rear wing provided additional space. Auxiliary buildings constructed from the 1930s through the 1960s surround the school, creating a campuslike effect.

Sources: Benjamin Bullock, former principal; Maxwell, *W. B. Wicker School*; Lee County Board of Education minutes, December 6, 1926, January 17 and February 7, 1927; N.C. Department of Public Instruction Papers; *Sanford Herald*, July 12, 1934, and January 6 and May 1, 1947.



W. B. Wicker School

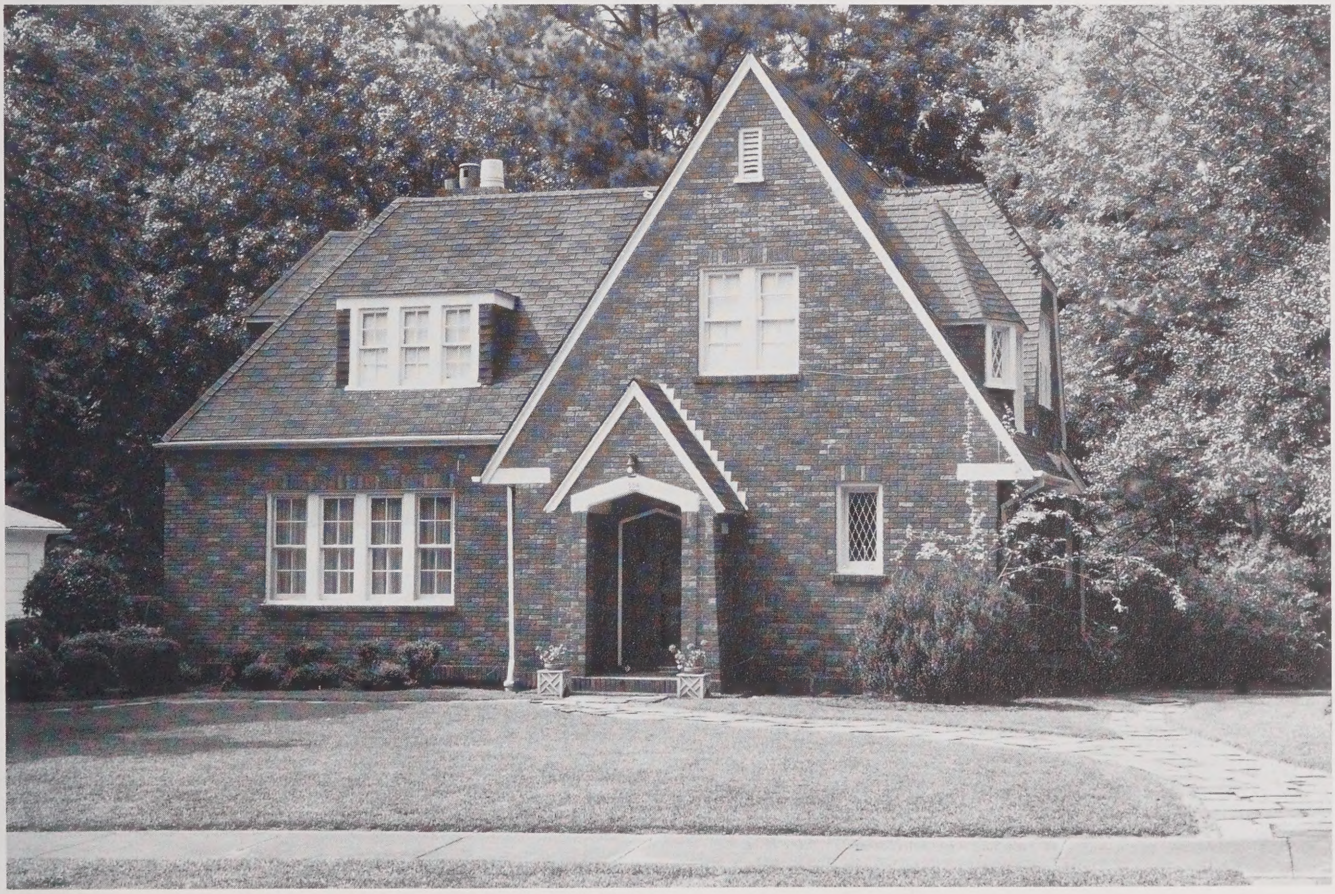
506 Sunset Drive
Sanford
1928

Shortly after Sanford's record Christmas sales season of 1923, Baltimore-born Fuquay-Varina merchant Harry Isaacson announced plans to open a department store on Steele Street. According to the *Sanford Express*, "An effort was made by the people of Fuquay Springs to keep him there, but he wanted to move to a town where his business would grow." In February, Isaacson traveled to New York to buy spring goods, and he held his opening sale in Sanford on March 12. Lillian Lederman, Harry's wife, assisted in the running of Isaacson's Ladies' Ready to Wear Shop, as the business came to be known, and the Isaacsons became the newest members of Sanford's small contingent of Jewish merchants. In 1936, the Isaacsons opened Saxon's, a ladies' apparel shop located for several years on Fayetteville Street in Raleigh.

The Isaacsons' success enabled them to purchase a lot in Sanford's fashionable McIver Park subdivision. Their 1928 house belongs to a distinguished group of Tudor Revival residences designed by Sanford architect L. M. Thompson. The walls of the one-and-a-half-story house are constructed of textured red, purple, and olive-colored brick, and the chimney is topped by fanciful red, yellow, and blue ceramic chimney pots. The front elevation is dominated by a steep gabled wing that projects from the high hip-roofed mass of the main house block. The main roof sprouts several hipped dormers, one with quarrel-paned windows. Other exterior features include a small gabled entry porch with a Tudor archway, a detached brick Tudor Revival garage (now made into a studio or guest apartment), and the original curving front walk paved with blue and gray slate flagstones. Inside are a winder stair with a handcrafted wooden balustrade and floorboards attached with wooden pegs.

Owner: Holvester Gupton.

Sources: Elise Bogoslow, daughter of Harry and Lillian Isaacson; Mary I. Casey, longtime neighborhood resident; Jimmy Haire, Lee County historian; *Sanford Express*, January 25, February 1 and 24, and March 7, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936, and May 25, 1970.



Harry and Lillian Isaacson House

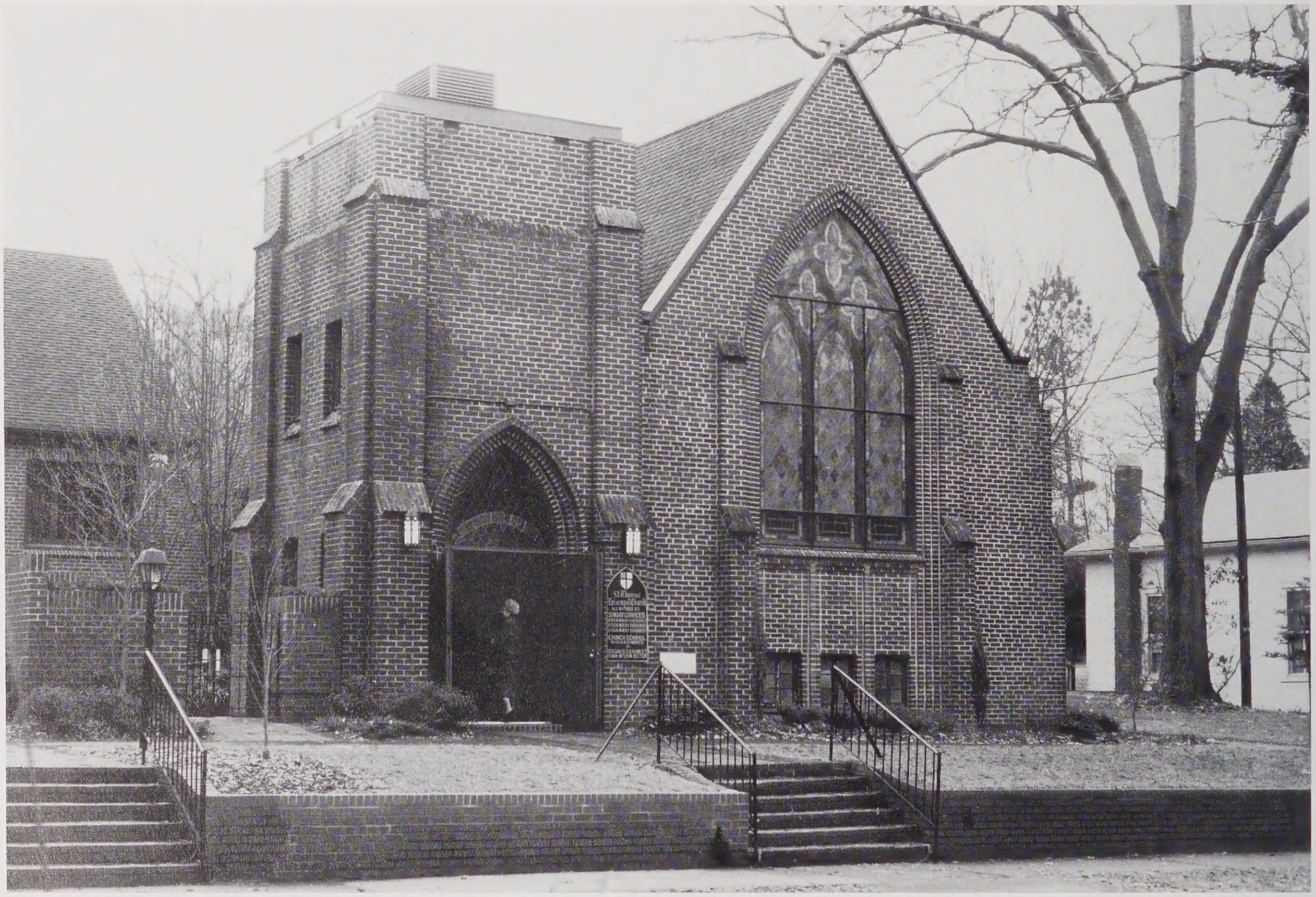
312 North Steele Street
Sanford
1928–31

St. Thomas' is a fine representative of the Gothic Revival parish church idiom long popular among Episcopalian congregations throughout the nation. The church was built in 1928–31 during the pastorate of the Rev. R. G. Shannonhouse to replace an 1896 frame church. (The earlier building stood on the west corner of Carthage and Moore streets—the site of the Carolina Hotel—and was moved to First Street in 1910.) The architect for the 1928–31 building was L. M. Thompson, and the builder was Goldston contractor O. Z. Barber.

St. Thomas' is constructed of dark brick laid in a modified English bond. The gabled facade features a large lancet-arched stained glass window, corner buttresses with paved weatherings, and a corner entry tower that appears not to have been completed. The church is entered through a doorway with a lancet-arched, quarrel-paned transom bearing a stained glass banner and crest.

The principal space on the interior is the sanctuary, which is roofed over by scissor trusses. At the altar end of the nave, large lancet-arched openings frame the two sections of the chancel, and a rose window pierces the chancel's back wall. In front of the chancel is an elevated octagonal pulpit with a belled canopy, both of wood. A brick parish house was built next to the church in 1957, and later a meditation garden and columbarium were constructed in the angle formed by the church and parish house.

Sources: Frank M. Nunnally, church historian; Nunnally, "Saint Thomas' Episcopal Church"; Cornelia Olive; *Sanford Express*, June 7, 1894, and June 20, 1924; *Sanford Herald*, May 15, 1953; *Sanford History*; Sanborn maps.



St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

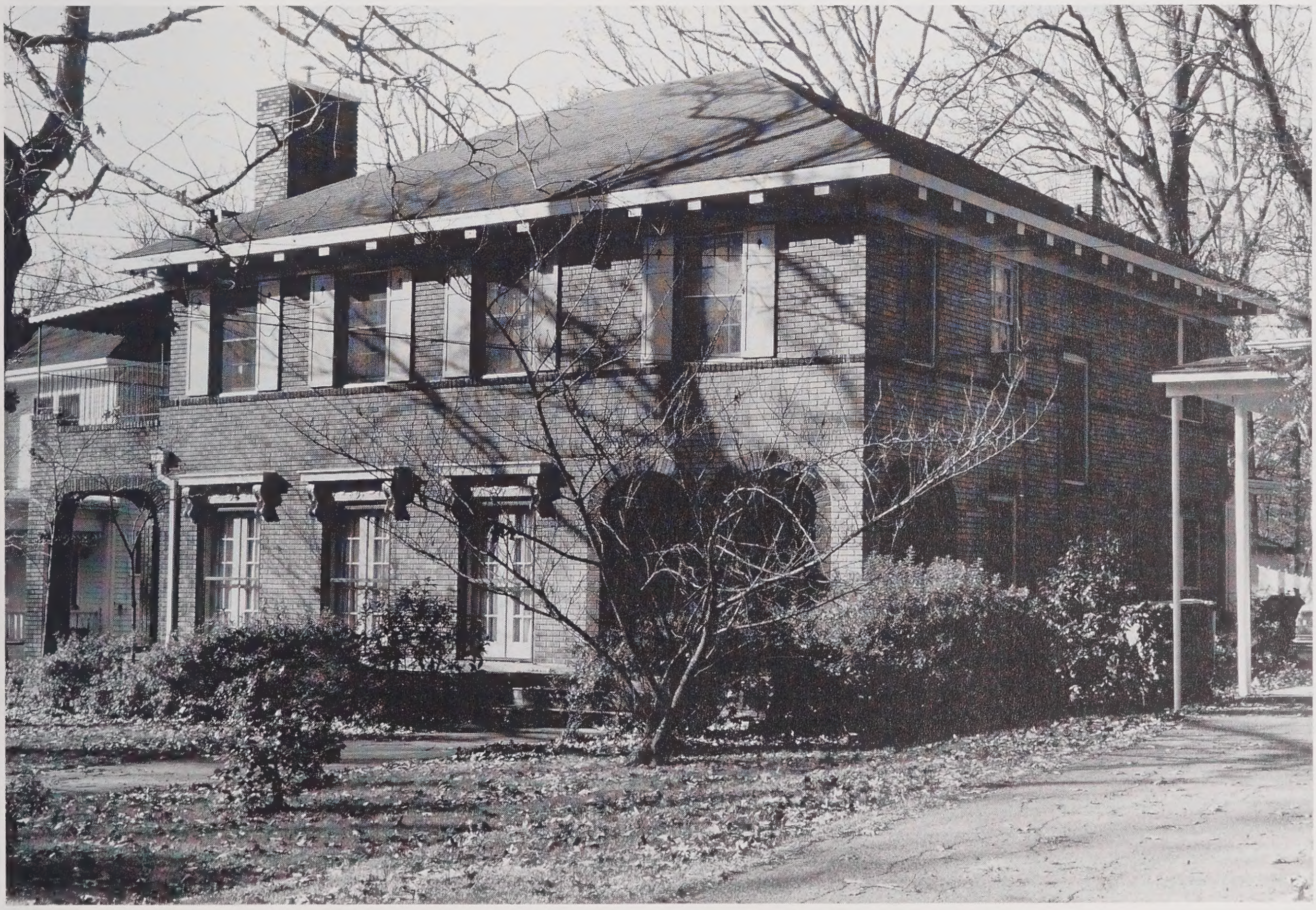
WILLIAM L. JEWELL HOUSE

506 Summit Drive
Sanford
1927–28

Sanford builder William Leon Jewell (ca. 1889–1964) made an architectural statement when he specified that his house be built out of white brick from Illinois rather than the ubiquitous local red brick. At the time that Jewell built his French Eclectic residence in 1927–28, he was a principal in the firm of Jewell-Riddle Company. The company built schools, libraries, manufacturing plants, and military installations throughout the southeastern United States.

The two-story house features a hip roof with modillion-like blocks in the eaves. The first story facade is enlivened by a row of French doors under classical entablatures, and arches trimmed with red brick provide access to a recessed entry porch at the east corner. The second story has eight-over-eight-sash windows with paneled shutters bearing pine tree motifs. On the west end of the house, an arcaded porte cochere is tucked under a sitting balcony.

Owners: Katrina and Greg Kindred.
Sources: Mrs. James C. Graves; W. L. Jewell, Jr.; *Sanford Herald*, September 5, 1964, and December 29, 1970; Lee County Deed Book 25, p. 293.



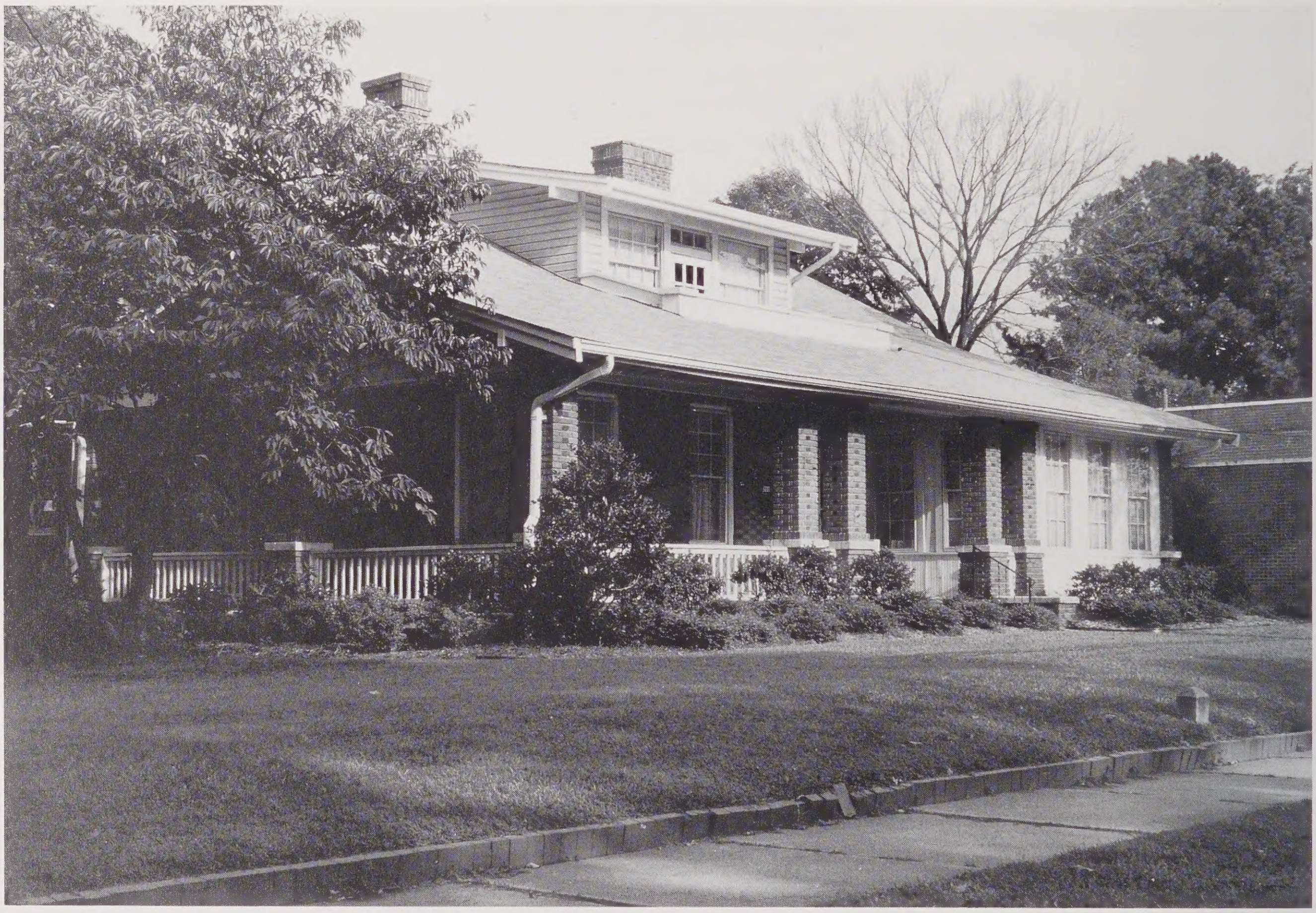
William L. Jewell House

206 Hawkins Avenue
Sanford
1924

John Robert Ingram, Sr. (b. 1870), contributed two important buildings to downtown Sanford: the 1925 Temple Theatre on Carthage Street, a tour de force of decorative brickwork, and the Sanford Coca-Cola Bottling Plant on Charlotte Avenue, a polychrome Art Deco building completed in 1931. J. R. and his wife Daisy (b. 1871) displayed similar progressivism in the construction of their downtown residence, a one-and-a-half-story Craftsman bungalow built in 1924. The Ingram House is one of three residences in Sanford constructed of decorative Flemish-bond brickwork with dark headers. (The other two houses are the Warren R. Williams House, at 119 North Gulf Street, and the J. F. Foster House, at 309 North Gulf.) Like its cousins, the Ingram House has an engaged front porch supported by brick pillars. The house also features a large gabled front dormer, with a door that opens onto a small balcony; a porte cochere; and a contemporaneous brick garage. Inside are a dining room mantel with built-in glass cabinets and a fanlike transom screen over the entrance to a back hall.

Owner: Margaret R. Ingram.

Sources: Margaret R. Ingram; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; Butchko, "Temple Theatre"; Lee County Deed Book 8, p. 393; July 4, 1925, aerial view of Sanford, Railroad House Collection; Sanborn maps; U.S. census schedules.



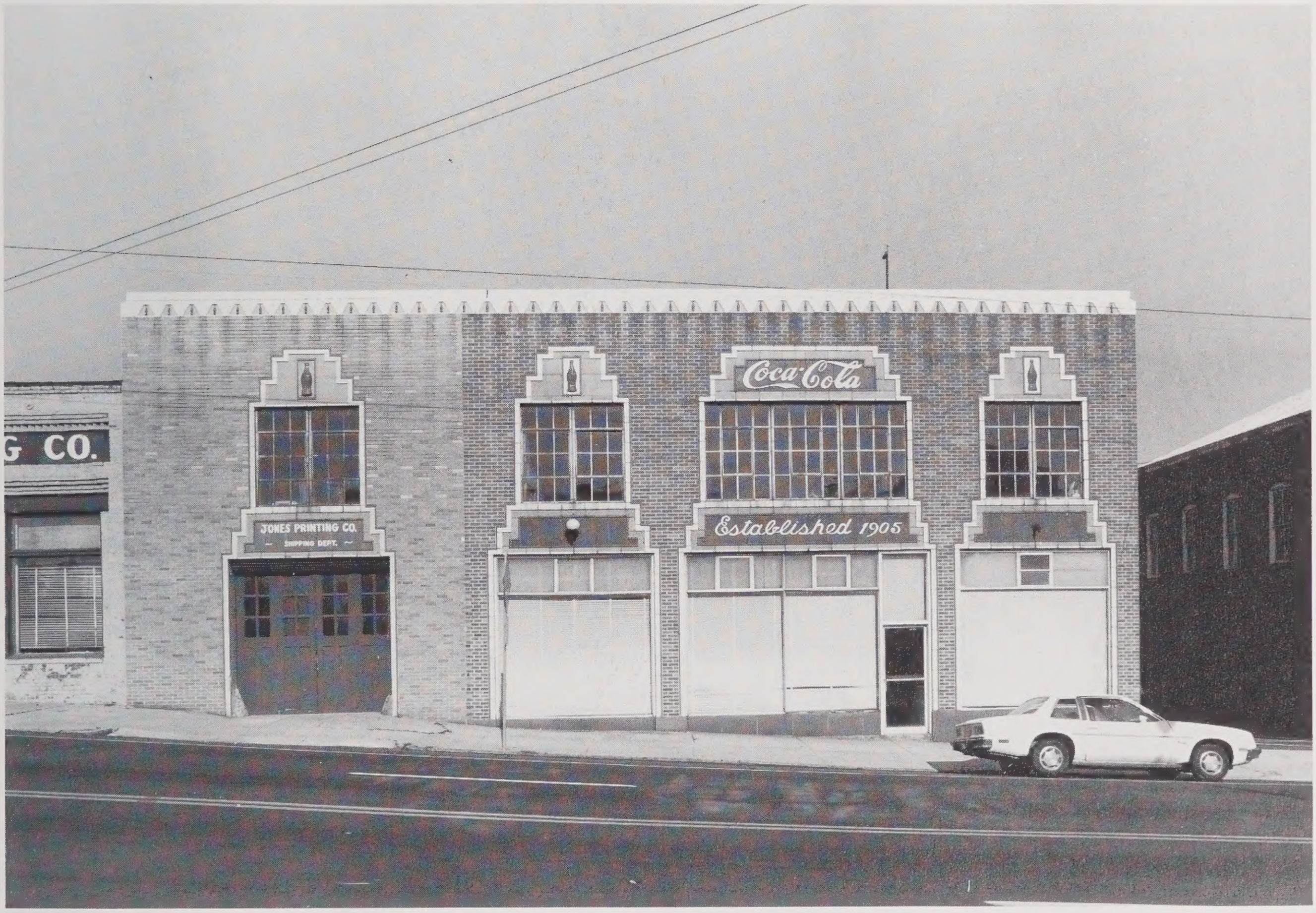
John R. and Daisy Ingram House

131 Charlotte Avenue
Sanford
1931

John R. Ingram, Sr., operated commissaries along the Seaboard line and a drugstore and bottling plant at Star in the early years of the twentieth century. About 1905, he moved to Sanford, purchased a bottling plant from Pat Monogan, and set up the Sanford Carbonated Works in the former Sanford Express Building at 137 Charlotte Avenue. In 1907, Ingram commissioned a two-story bottling plant that apparently forms the east section of the present building. The west section was built in 1931 in the Art Deco style, and the east section was remodeled at about the same time. In 1933, the local press described the Sanford Coca-Cola Bottling Company as one of the leading Coca-Cola bottlers in central North Carolina. The business continues to flourish at modern headquarters on Hawkins Avenue.

Ingram's whimsical bottling plant is faced with buff-colored brick of two hues, a consequence of the different periods of construction for the building's two facades. Running across the top of the facades is a frieze decorated with terra-cotta Coke bottles; larger Coke bottles appear in the stepped transom panels over the steel-frame windows of the second story. The cursive Coca-Cola logo occupies the transom panel over the largest window, and the phrase "Established 1905" appears in the space between the large window and the display window beneath it.

Owner: J. R. Ingram family.
Sources: Sanford Herald, July 31, 1933, May 15, 1953, and August 29, 1959; *Raleigh Times*, March 11, 1929; Sanford Town Minutes, May 5, 1931.

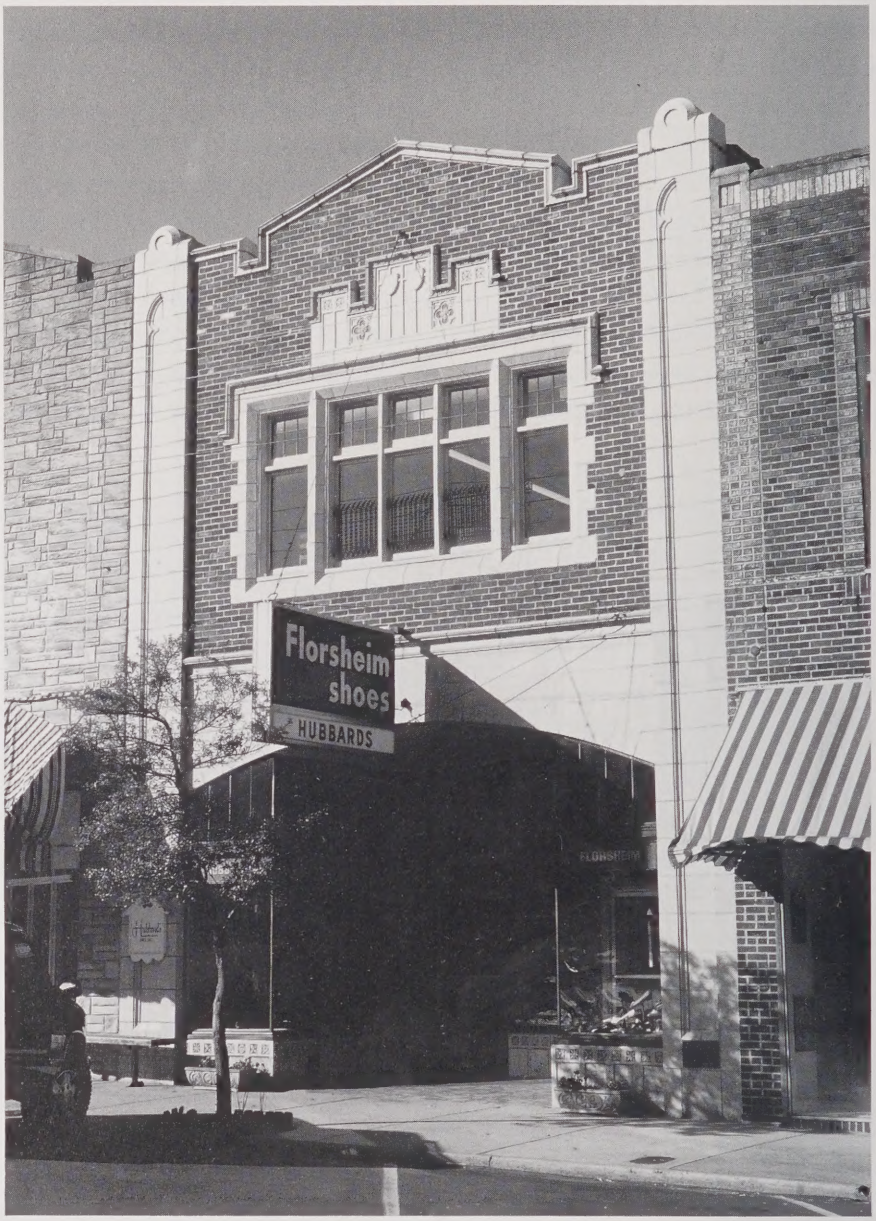


Sanford Coca-Cola Bottling Company

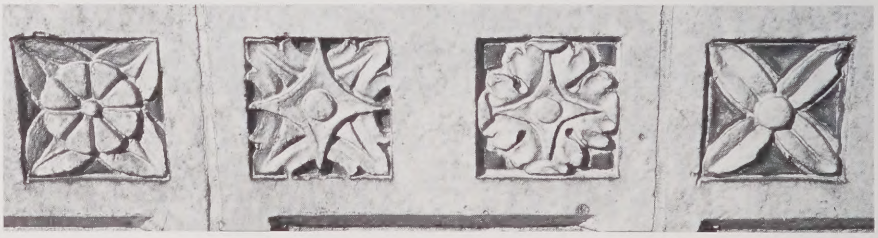
112 South Steele Street
Sanford
1928

Owner: Edwin A. Hubbard.
Sources: Edwin A. Hubbard; *Sanford Express*, January 17, 1895; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District"; Lee County Records of Corporations, Book 1.

J. B. and E. B. Stroud of Greensboro formed Stroud Brothers in 1895 and set up shop in the Scott Building on South Moore Street. In 1910, E. B. Stroud (b. ca. 1871) and A. M. Hubbard (b. ca. 1885) joined forces as the Stroud & Hubbard shoe store, now one of Sanford's oldest businesses. In 1928, the firm employed L. M. Thompson to design and Joe W. Stout to build this two-story brick store on Steele Street. Thompson borrowed from Gothic and Tudor architecture to compose the building's playful facade; the peaked parapet, for example, seems to evoke the profile of a Tudor arch. Architectural details are expressed in granitic terra-cotta, specifically the slender lancet-arched recesses in the piers flanking the facade, the five heavy-mullioned windows grouped under a single label molding, and the quatrefoils and shields in the panel under the parapet. Equal attention was lavished on the store front: the display windows in their vaulted embrasure have copper mullions, and the low wall under them is capped by a row of blue and white terra-cotta rosettes. Inside, the store features pressed metal ceilings, wooden shelves and counters, a mezzanine, and a dumbwaiter (bearing L. M. Thompson's signature) for lifting merchandise from the basement to the upper story. A watercolor rendering of the store painted by L. M. Thompson is featured elsewhere in this book.



Stroud-Hubbard Building



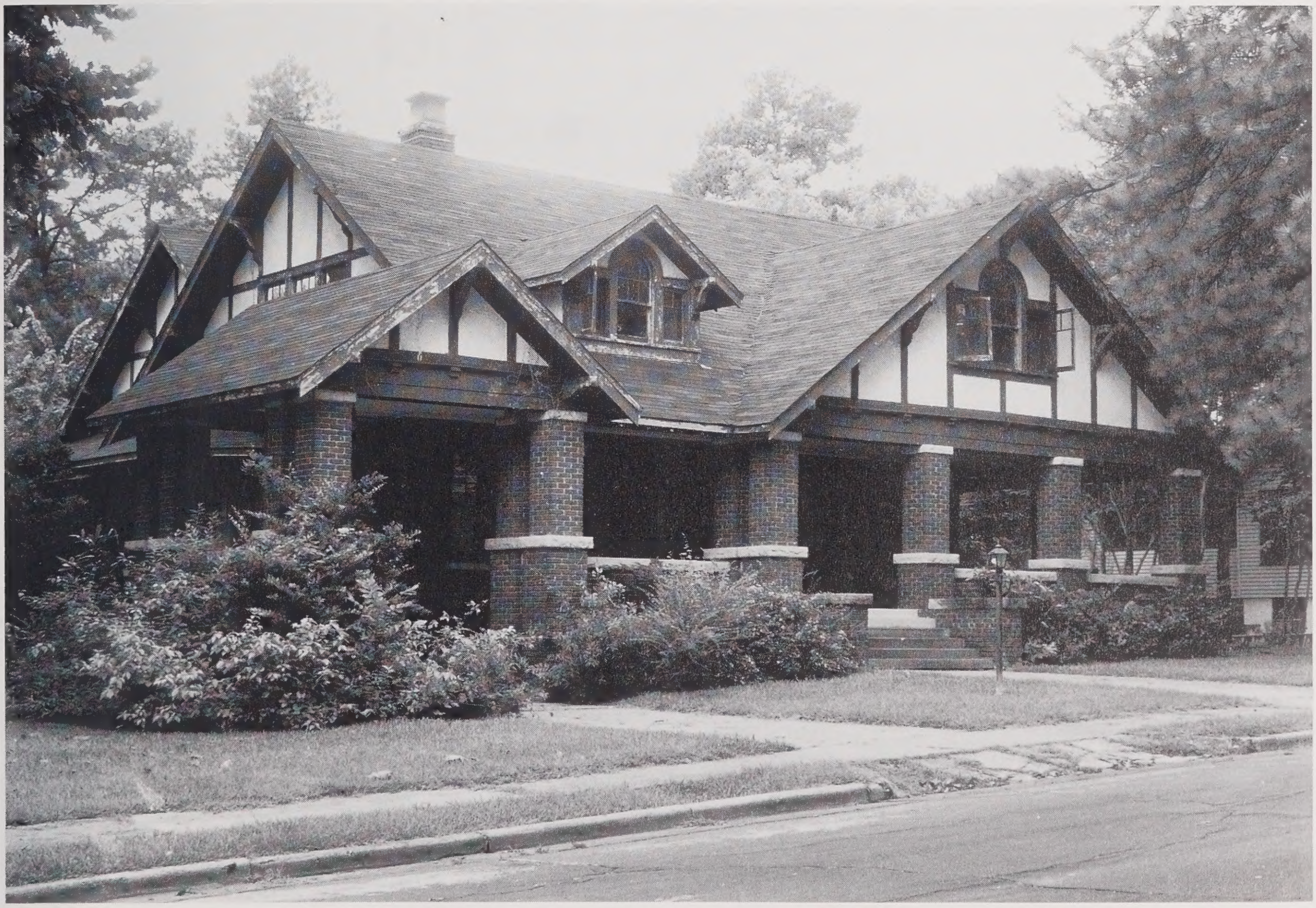
Terra-cotta rosettes under display window

318 Summit Drive
Sanford
1929

Lewis D. Isenhour was the son of Lewis C. Isenhour, founder of the L. C. Isenhour Brick Company. By the late 1920s, the company's name had been altered to L. C. Isenhour & Son, reflecting Lewis D.'s increased importance in company affairs. After World War II, as president of the company (renamed the Sanford Brick & Tile Company), Lewis D. Isenhour oversaw its growth into one of the nation's largest brick manufacturers.

Isenhour chose architect L. M. Thompson to design this rambling Tudor Revival/Craftsman dwelling, built in 1929 across North Gulf Street from the home of Isenhour's sister, Mary Casey. The house is characterized by its bristling half-timbered gables and gabled dormers above a first story constructed of dark textured brick. The engaged front porch, supported by rows of brick pillars, resolves into a porte cochere at its west end. As with the Casey House, the bricks for the house were manufactured at the Isenhour brick plant.

Owners: Jesse and Vanda Hulse.
Sources: Mary I. Casey; Ralph Monger, Jr., Lee County historian; Brickhouse, "Sanford Brick Corporation"; Lee County Superior Court Judgment Docket No. 5912; Black and Bowen, "Downtown Sanford Historic District."



Lewis D. Isenhour House (Summit Drive)

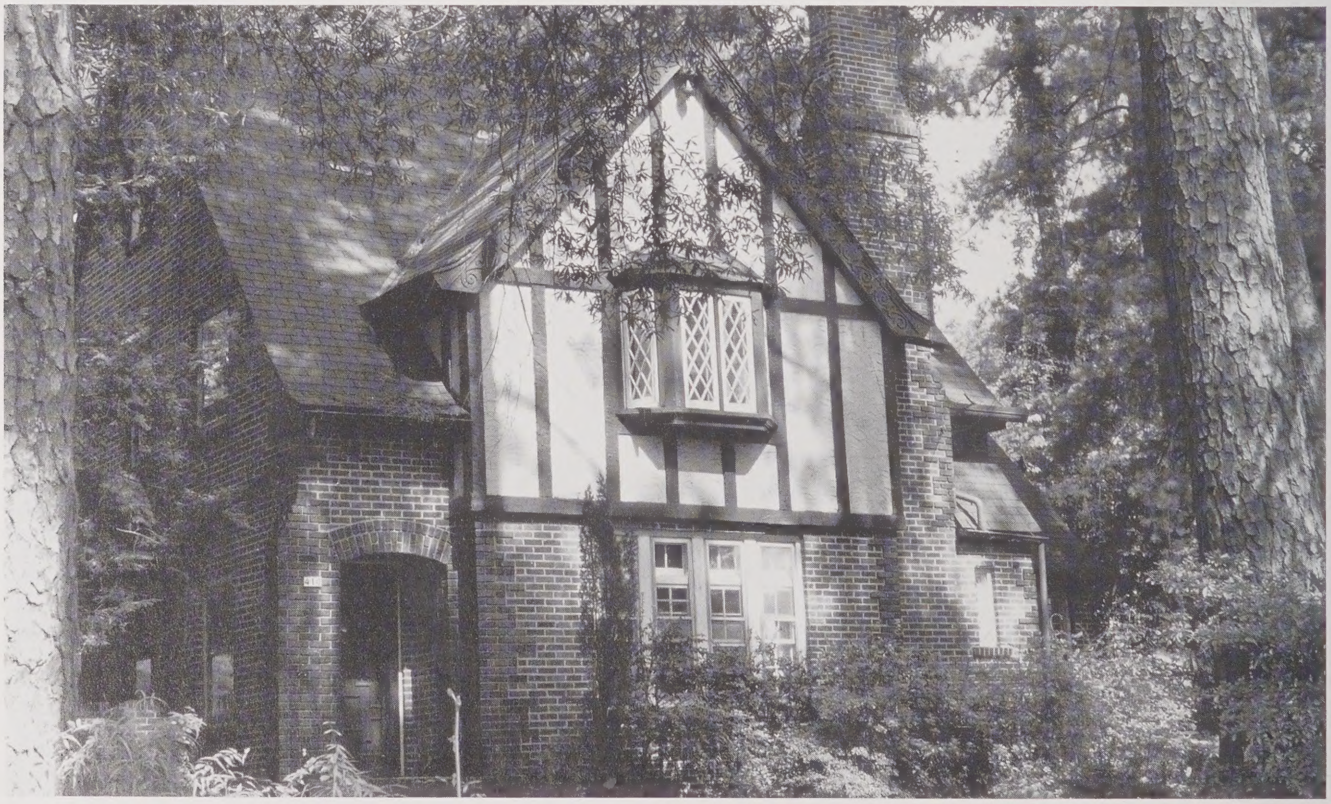
410 North Gulf Street
Sanford
1928–29

Edward Chandler Heins, Sr., became interested in communications in the 1890s, when he rigged a telegraph line between his house and store in Ridgeway, South Carolina. Heins operated a telephone company in Statesville before purchasing the Sanford-Jonesboro Telephone Company in 1923, and with his four sons—including Edward C. "Tuts" Heins, Jr.—ran what came to be known as the Heins Telephone Company. The switchboard was originally located in the Weatherspoon Building on Charlotte Avenue; later the company built its own facility on North Moore Street (demolished in 1991).

The 1928–29 Edward C., Jr., and Ethel S. Heins House stands as one of several sophisticated Tudor Revival residences in Sanford. The house is closely modeled on "The Devonshire," house plan number T-103 of the Common Brick Manufacturers Association of America. Local architect L. M. Thompson adapted this design for the construction of the house, and A. Lincoln Boykin completed the framing work. The picturesque front elevation juxtaposes a brick chimney with a half-timbered gable featuring elaborately carved bargeboards, textured stucco, and a quarrel-paned oriel window. The front chimney and other brickwork, such as the arched inset entry porch and several buttress-like elements, are trimmed with darker brick. The house's steep gable roof rises a full three stories and features two gabled, half-timbered wall dormers on the rear elevation, and one dormer with a door that opens onto a false balcony with a sawn balustrade. A semidetached brick garage with half-timbered gables harmonizes stylistically with the main house.

The interior has a medieval character created by wall sconces with electric candles, arched passageways and bookcase niches, and fireplaces with arched and square-headed brick surrounds. The brick-tile masonry core of the house departs from the brick core called for in the specifications. Surrounding the house is a landscaped yard with pines, azaleas, an early curving brick walk, and a brownstone retaining wall built along the sidewalk on North Gulf Street for Ethel Spaugh Heins, wife of Edward C., Jr.

Sources: Terrel Wright and Sally Ward; Ted and Isabel (Heins) Lawrence, Lee County historians; *Sanford Herald*, September 7, 1931, and February 2, 1933.



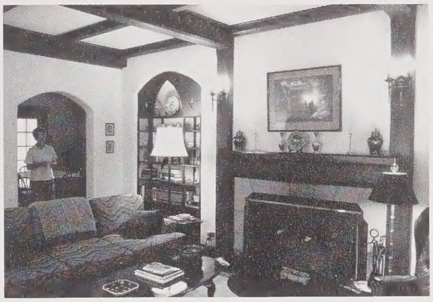
Edward C., Jr., and Ethel S. Heins House

1215 Bickett Drive
Sanford
1929

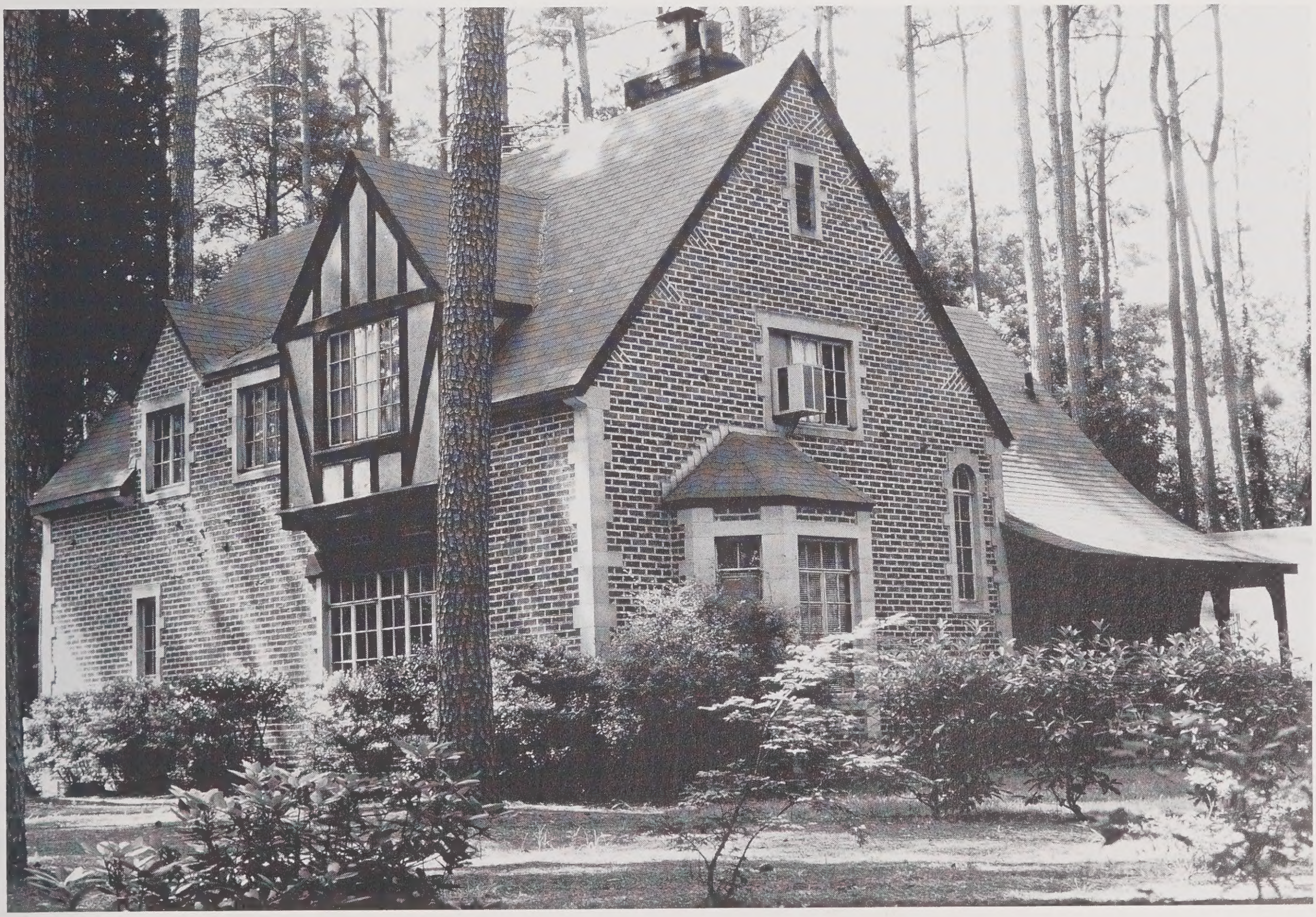
Henry VIII and his wives would have felt right at home in any of the houses designed by Sanford architect L. M. Thompson during the 1920s. The decorative brickwork and half-timbering of Thompson commissions like the Heins and Isenhour houses harken back to the architecture of the Tudor period in England. In 1929, Thompson and his wife Margaret bought a large lot in McCracken Heights and hired contractor O. Z. Barber to build Thompson's design for this Tudor Revival–style residence, the first house in the development.

The brick walls of the one-and-a-half-story house are ornamented with tumbling in the gables and cast-stone door and window surrounds and quoining. A half-timbered gable jetties out over the first story on one elevation, and the steep gable roof extends over a porch on another side. The front door, set into a recessed Tudor-arched embrasure, has a stained glass window with a heraldic emblem. The Tudor detailing of the exterior carries through to the interior, especially in the living room, which has a cast-stone fireplace surround, chamfered wall and ceiling beams, and a lancet-arched bookshelf embrasure.

Sources: Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Zawalich; Cornelia Olive; *Sanford Herald*, April 30, 1973; Lee County Deed Book 25, p. 623.



Living room



L. M. and Margaret Thompson House

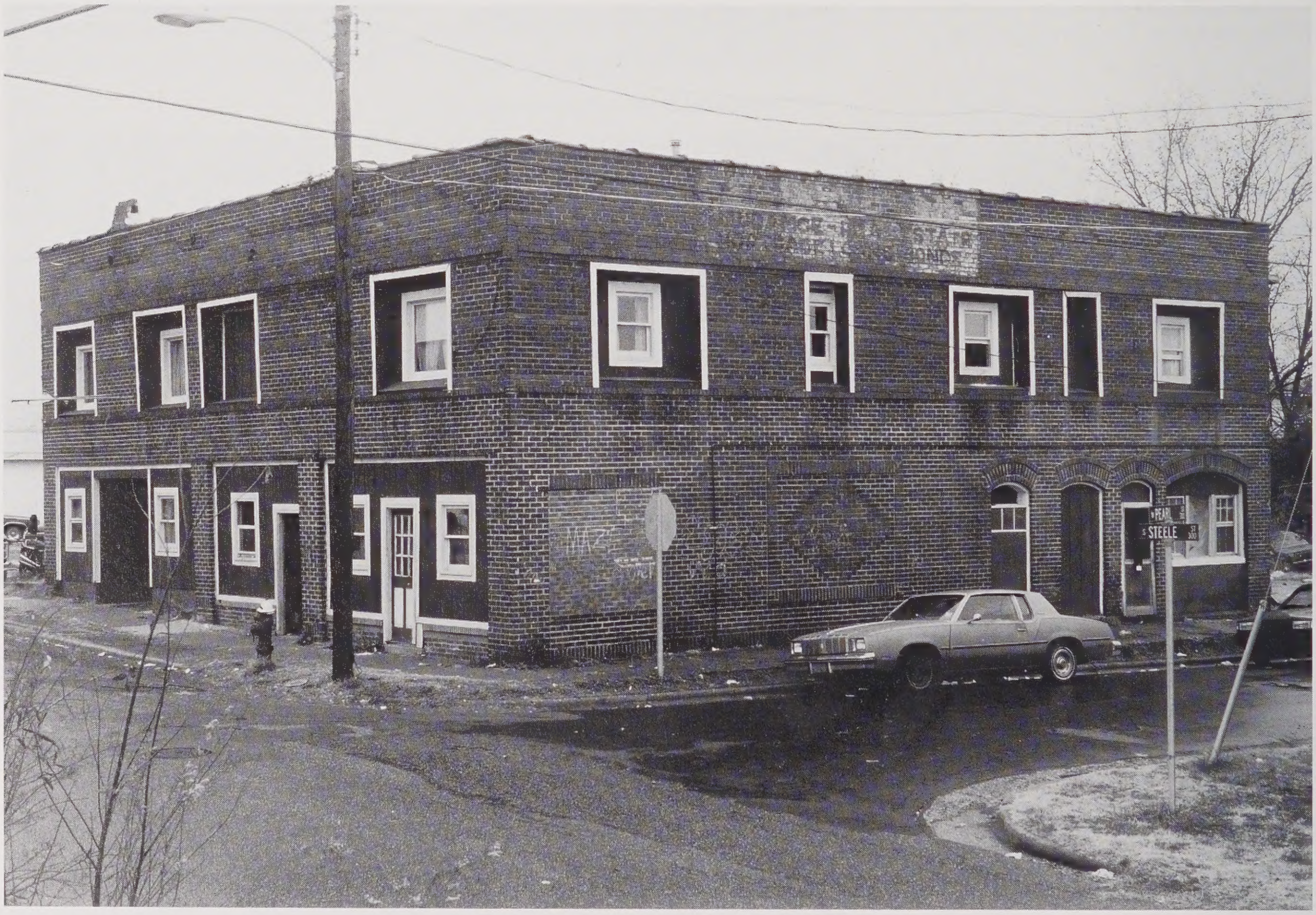
South Steele Street
Sanford
Ca. 1930

The Goldston Building is one of the few remnants of Sanford's historic African-American commercial district on Pearl Street. The original builder and owner of the building was apparently brickmason, plasterer, and general contractor Dan Goldston (b. ca. 1883), who lived in a Craftsman bungalow formerly located beside the building on Pearl Street. The building's first story was occupied at different times by Dr. David Bland's pharmacy, a printing office, a barbershop, a cafe, and a workshop (possibly run by the Heck family) where chairs were recaned. Upstairs were rooms for boarders who took their meals in the cafe on the ground floor.

Dan Goldston showcased his brickworking skills in this two-story building. The parapet is constructed of contrasting smooth and rough brick forming a zigzag band that rises and falls in synch with the spacing of the second-story windows beneath. A diamond-shaped panel formed by projecting and recessed bricks provides visual interest at street level on the Pearl Street elevation. Other features include segmental-arched door and window openings on Pearl Street, shop fronts and large second-story window openings with modern infill on South Steele Street, and traces of painted signage in the parapet.

Owner: Harvey Knotts.

Sources: Helen Hill, Eugene E. McKoy, and Zenobia Sellars, longtime Sanford residents; Murchison, *Yesteryears*, 16; Sanborn maps; Lee County Deed Book 18, p. 654; U.S. census schedules.



Goldston Building

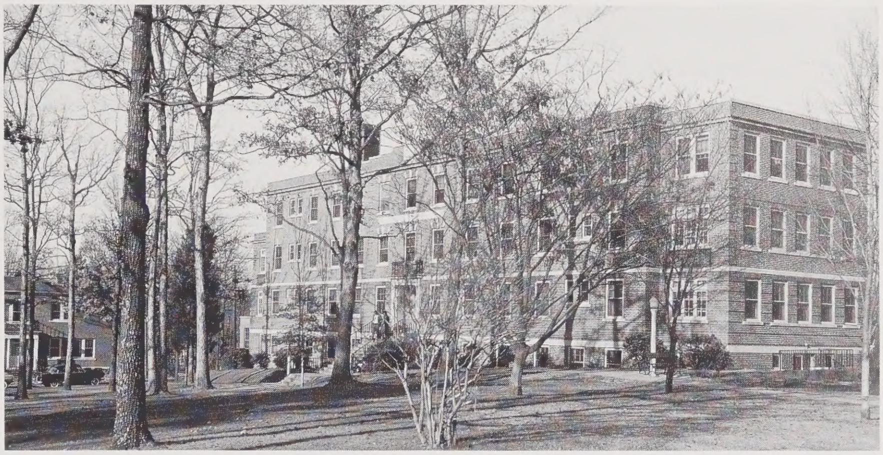
LEE COUNTY HOSPITAL

112 North Hillcrest Drive
Sanford
1930–31

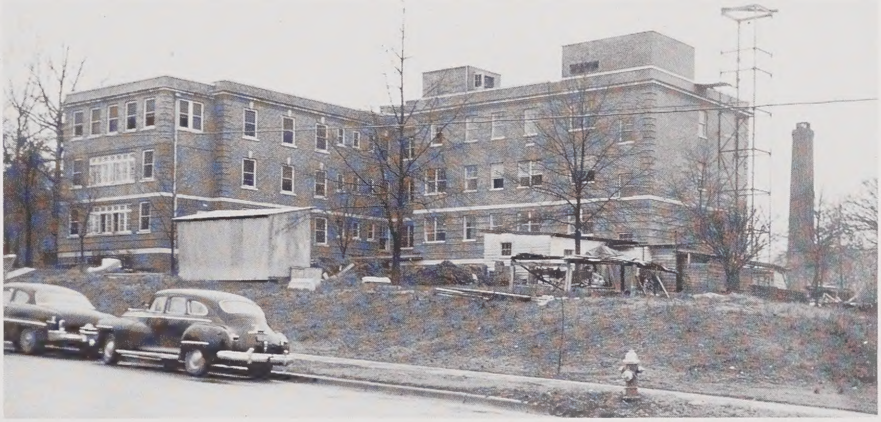
When the Lee County Hospital accepted its first patient in August 1931, the event represented the fulfillment of a "lifetime dream" of Dr. W. A. Monroe. Monroe was the first director of the twenty-one-room Central Carolina Hospital, opened in 1906. Along with fellow physician and hospital director Charles L. Scott, Monroe pushed hard in the 1920s for the construction of a larger and more up-to-date facility. Bonds were issued in 1925, and the Duke Endowment donated funds to cover half the $90,000 construction cost. The hospital backers acquired a site on the edge of the fashionable McIver Park subdivision, and contractor Joe W. Stout began work on the building in July 1930. At first the hospital contained fifty beds; by 1953 there were over a hundred beds, and the facility's 102 employees placed it among the top ten employers in the county.

In its original form, the Lee County Hospital was a classically inspired three-story brick building with quoins, a classical front entry surround, window lintels with keystones, and a decorative parapet. Enlarged several times, the building was replaced by the present Central Carolina Hospital in 1981, and the old building now serves as county administrative offices. Next to the hospital stands a 1930s building once used as a rooming house for nurses. The two-story brick building has eclectic styling that combines details from Mediterranean and Colonial Revival architecture. Also on the property is the original powerhouse, a utilitarian brick building.

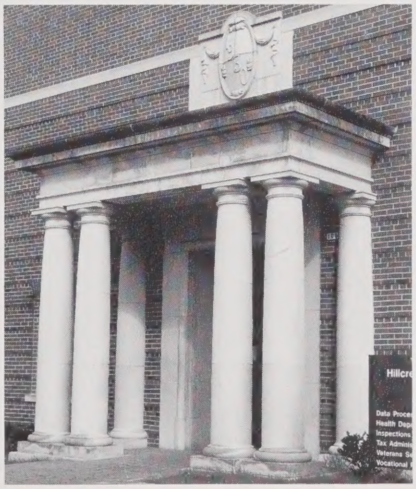
Sources: Dr. John Blue; *Sanford Express*, November 13, 1925; *Sanford Herald*, December 18, 1930, March 16, 1936, May 15, 1953, and April 3, 1959.



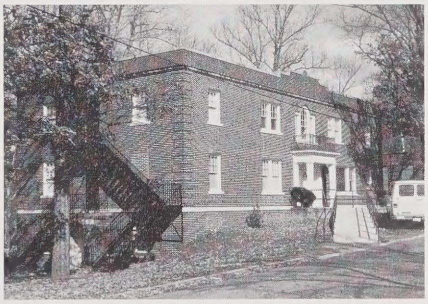
Lee County Hospital *(right)* and rooming house for nurses *(left)* (Photo ca. 1950, courtesy of Darrell Byerly)



Addition under construction, photo ca. 1950



Hillcrest Drive entrance to southwest side addition



Rooming house for nurses

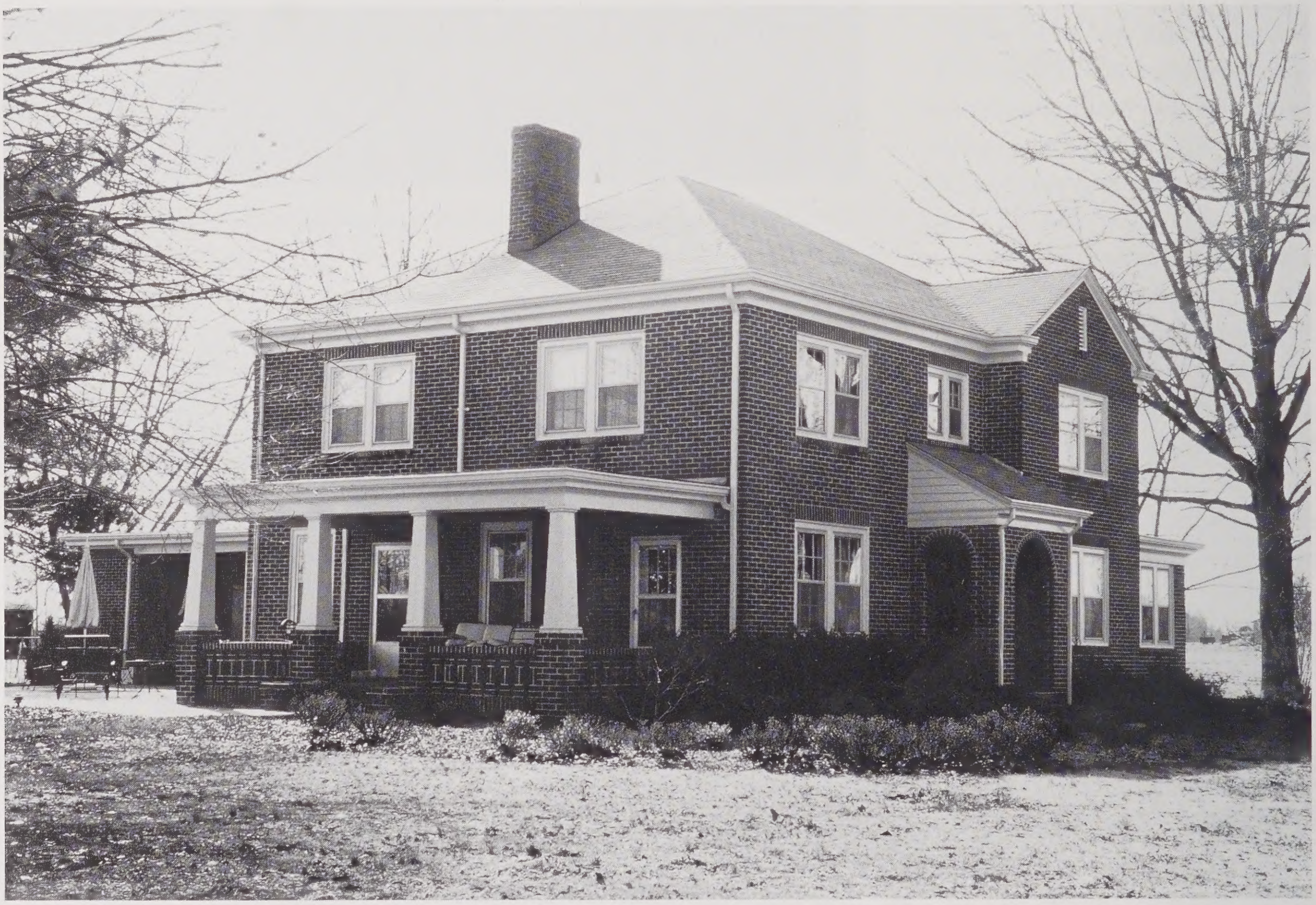
RAYMOND R. KNIGHT FARM

2211 Tramway Road (NC 78)
Tramway vicinity
1932

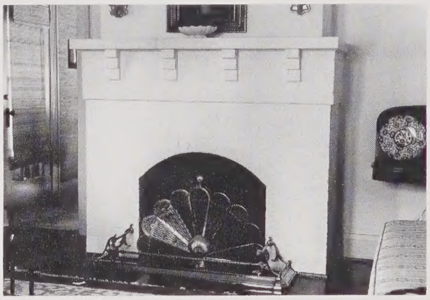
Salesman Raymond R. Knight sold sawmill equipment for the Raleigh-based Jones Supply Company. In 1932, he employed mason H. A. Ellis and carpenter/painter Charles M. Baker to build this two-story brick-faced house. Irocus F. McKinney purchased the farm in 1939.

The walls of the Knight House are constructed of brick tile produced at one of Lee County's brick plants. The house has a hip roof with gable wings, a front entry sheltered by a brick stoop with arched openings, and a Craftsman side porch. The interior features a center-passage stair detailed in the Colonial Revival style, an arched telephone niche under the stair, and Craftsman mantels with segmental-arched fireplaces and corbeled shelves. The farm's early-1930s gambrel-roofed barn, like the house, is constructed of brick tile. To the southeast of the house and barn stands a two-story frame tenant house that originally served as a pack house.

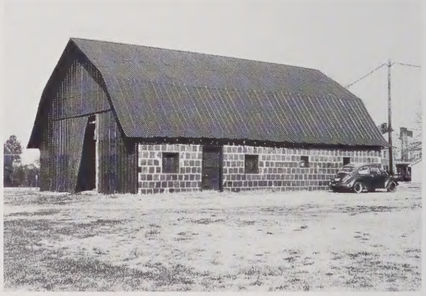
Owner: Betty Sloan McKinney.
Source: Betty McKinney; Thomas C. Black, Lee County historian.



Raymond R. Knight House



Living room mantel



Barn

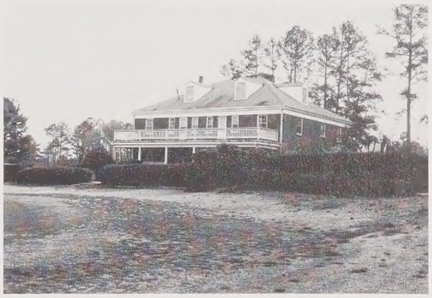
SANFORD GOLF COURSE

600 Golf Course Lane
Sanford
1934

The Sanford Golf Course is one of several tangible reminders of the New Deal in Lee County. Construction work began under the Civil Works Administration and was completed by the Emergency Relief Administration in 1934. Noted golf course designer Donald Ross, who also worked in Pinehurst, laid out the course. According to one account, an old house on the property served as the clubhouse until the present two-story brick clubhouse was completed later in the 1930s. The course originally featured nine holes with sand greens, and golfers were transported in horse carts. Later, an irrigation pond was built to provide water for turf, and about 1970 an additional nine holes were laid out.

The clubhouse is a two-story brick building located on a hill at the south end of the course. The building has a hip roof with dormers, a one-story porch across the front (north) elevation, and knotty pine interiors with Colonial Revival detailing. In front of the clubhouse are plantings of boxwood, azalea, and rhododendron in a crescent-shaped formation. The clubhouse originally doubled as a country club where dances and barbecues were held.

Sources: J. Ed Davis and W. Todd Powell; plaque on clubhouse; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936.


Clubhouse

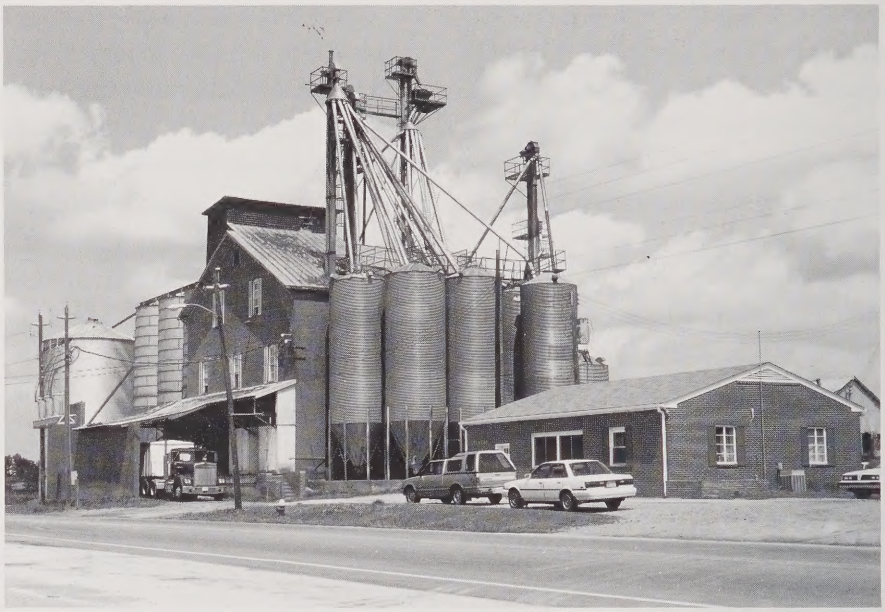
Sanford Golf Course

120 North Main Street
Broadway
1934

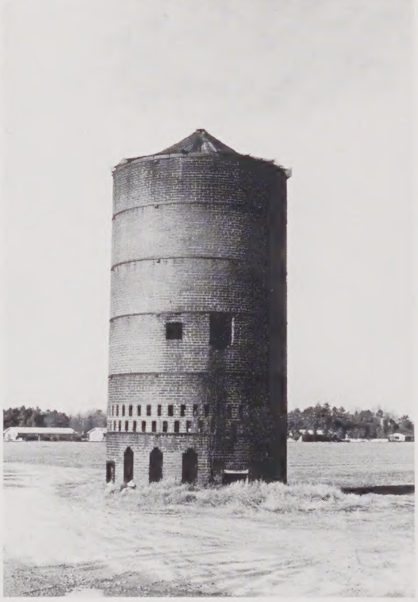
Samuel V. Stevens purchased the two-acre Thomas & Anderson mill tract on the outskirts of Broadway in 1910; in the mid-1920s he erected a frame cotton ginhouse on the property. The original ginhouse burned in 1934, and Stevens rebuilt using a prefabricated steel building manufactured by the Murray Gin Company of Fort Worth, Texas. In 1943–45, the Stevens Milling Company added a flour and feed mill to the complex and began to offer White Swan Flour, Kitchen Queen Flour, White Point Corn Meal, and Double 'S' Feeds. The company produced fifty tons of feed a day in 1966 and operated three farms as a sideline.

The largest building at the Stevens Milling Company is the roller mill, a three-story brick building with Craftsman gable brackets. The adjoining ginhouse is a gabled building with corrugated metal siding. The complex also includes metal grain elevators and a brick-veneered concrete-block office. Formerly, a cylindrical brick incinerator, built in the 1950s or 1960s, stood to the west; the structure was associated with a corn shucking and shelling operation at the mill.

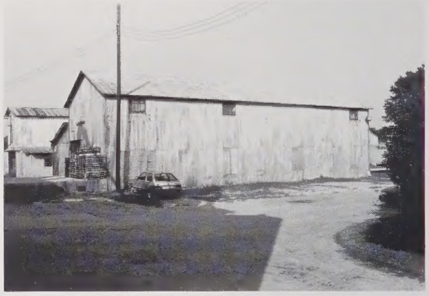
Sources: Robert W. Stevens and Forrest Stevens; Sharon H. Cox, Lee County historian; *Broadway, North Carolina, 1870–1970*; Lee County Deed Book 4, p. 289; Broadway Town Minutes.



Stevens Milling Company



Incinerator (demolished) (Photo by Michael T. Southern, 1985, courtesy of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History)



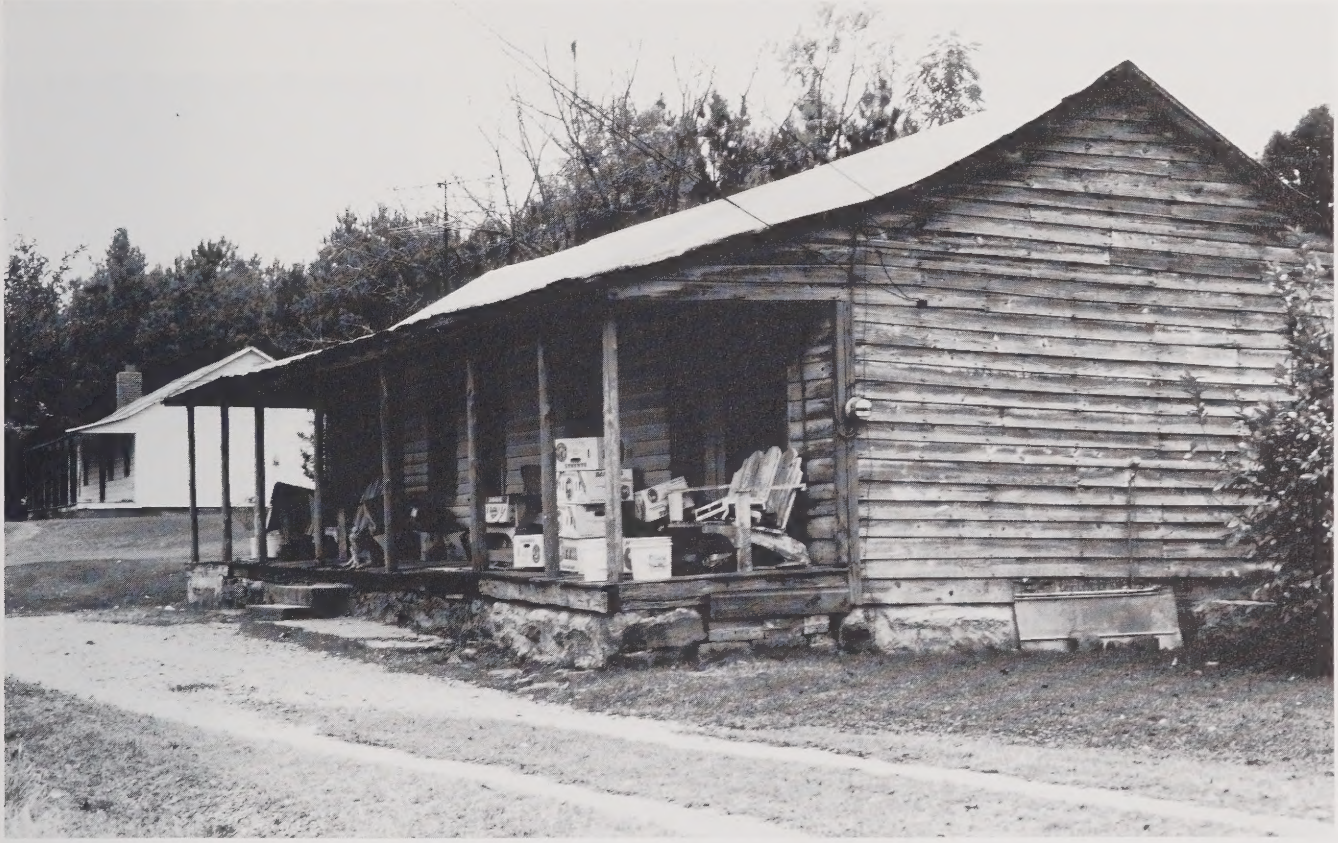
Ginhouse

ROBERT L. GOINS, JR. HOUSE

1808 South Plank Road (SR 1007)
Tramway vicinity
Ca. 1935

One of Lee County's best-preserved traditional dwellings is relatively recent in date. The original log section of this one-story house was probably built in the 1930s by Robert Lee Goins, Sr., who moved to Lee County around 1920 from Forsyth County. In the mid-1940s, the log dwelling was moved to its present site on the South Plank Road from its original location near Little Governor's Creek, approximately a mile to the west. Goins added frame rooms to the gable ends of the log section in the 1950s, giving the dwelling its present linear appearance. A porch with a flush-board ceiling, log sapling posts, and projecting rafters with hand-shaped ends extends across the front. The yard is bordered by a low brick wall and planted with magnolias, dogwoods, crape myrtles, and other ornamental shrubs and trees. In 1974, Goins built another linear-form frame house on the property to provide extra room for his family.

Sources: George Goins and Mrs. Joe Ben Goins; Lee County Deed Book indexes.



Robert L. Goins, Jr. House

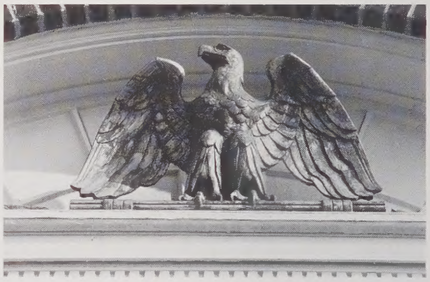
226 Carthage Street
Sanford
1936–37

A building on Chatham Street housed Sanford's first post office, which had moved across the railroad tracks to the Scott Building on South Moore Street by the turn of the twentieth century. As late as the 1930s the post office still rented space—by this time in a building on the east corner of Wicker and South Steele streets—but in March 1936 plans were announced for a federal post office building to be erected on Carthage Street. A design was prepared under the supervision of Treasury Department architect Louis A. Simon. Local builders O. P. Makepeace and William L. Jewell were involved in planning the building, and the Borden Brick & Tile Company supplied the bricks for its construction. The building was completed in 1937 and was used as a post office until 1967, when it was replaced by another building on Carthage Street. The old building was converted to offices for federal agencies.

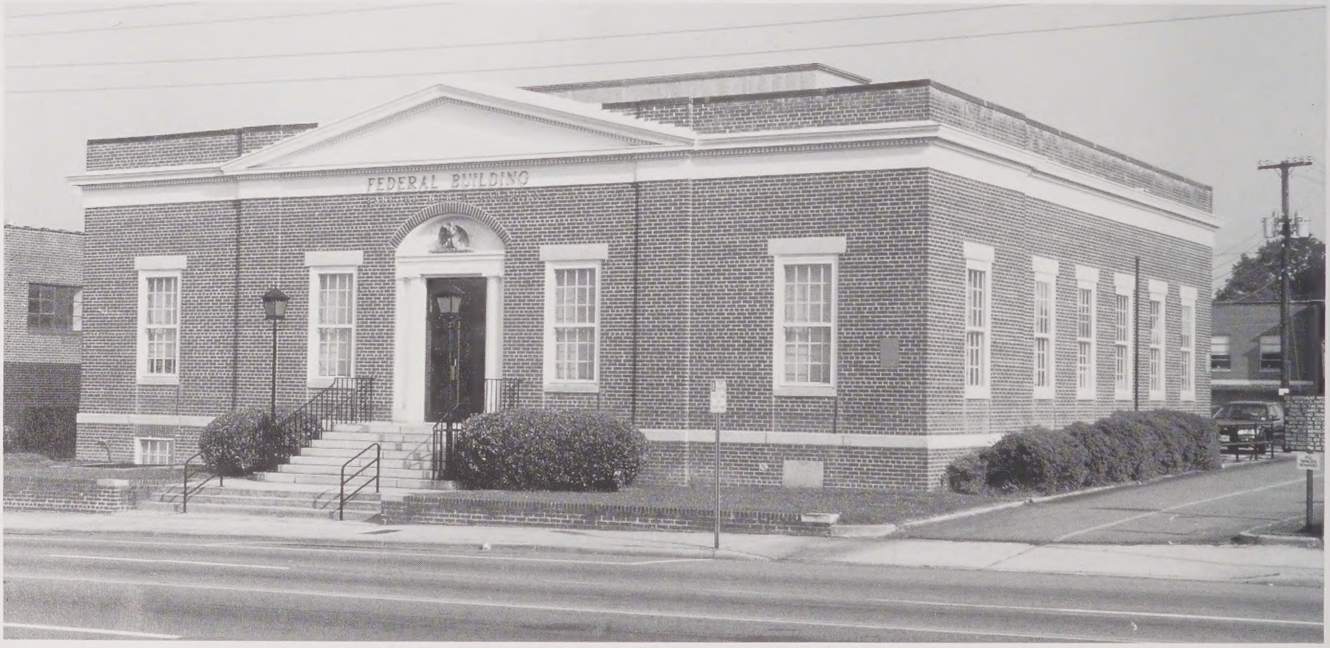
The Sanford Post Office is designed in the restrained classical idiom typical of Treasury Department work during the period. The one-story brick building has a tripartite facade with a central pediment, a dentil cornice, and a front entry framed by Doric pilasters and an elliptical fanlight that provides a backdrop for a gilded eagle figurine. Front steps with iron railings and tall twelve-over-twelve-sash windows with plain lintels are other exterior features, and the remodeled interior has concealed stairways that were used by postal inspectors to keep watch over the employees. In 1938, the Sanford Post Office was selected as the first in the state (according to local press releases) to receive a federally financed lobby mural. Roman-born New York painter Pietro Lazzari took the story of Virginia Dare as his theme. The mural was displayed until recently in the lobby of the Lee County Courthouse.

Sources: Isabel H. Lawrence and Nancy M. Griffin, Lee County historians; inscription on building; *Sanford Herald*, March 16, 1936, March 2 and April 8, 1938.

Virginia Dare mural



Eagle above entrance



Sanford Post Office

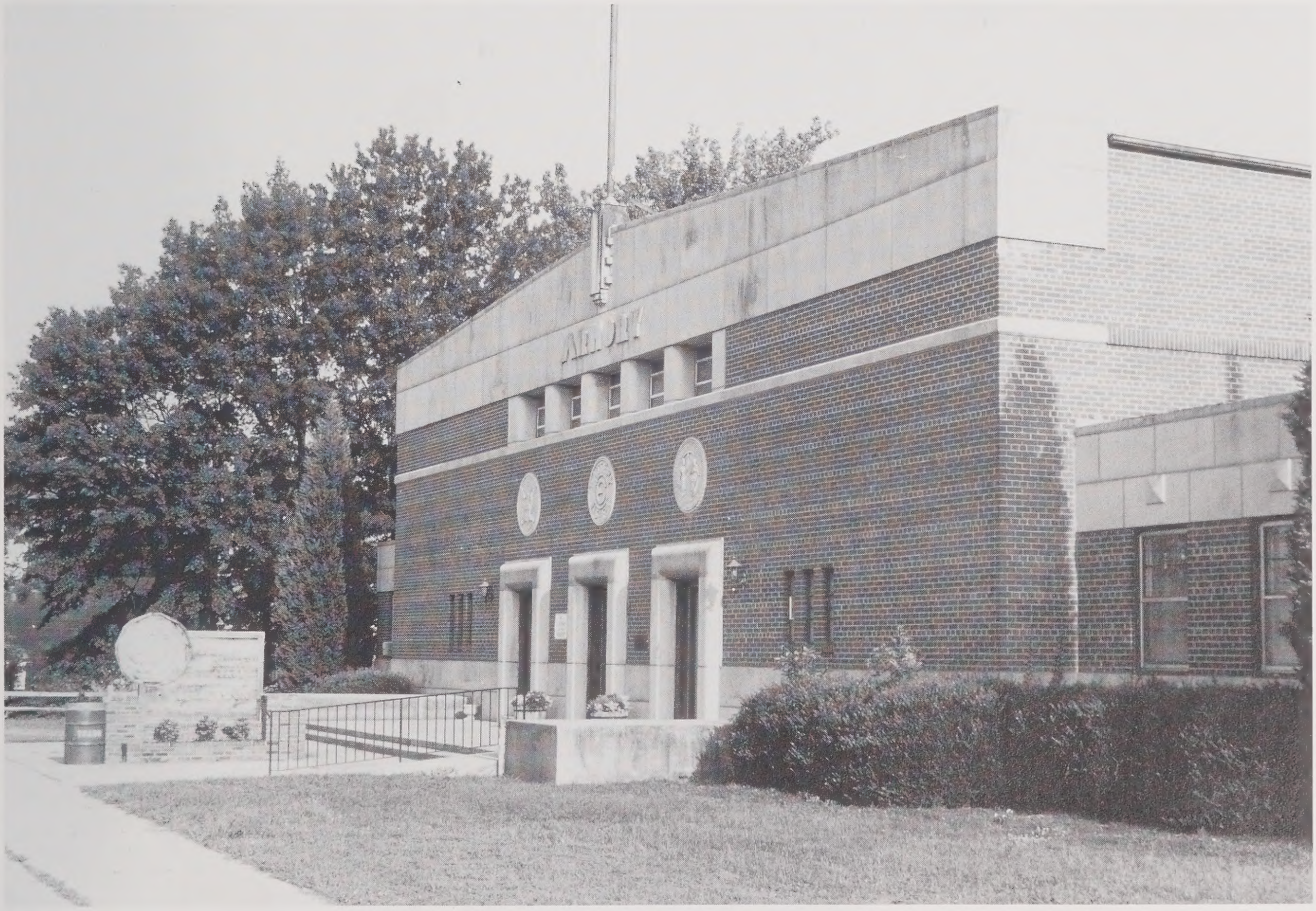
SANFORD ARMORY

147 McIver Street
Sanford
1938

Sanford was one of twenty-five North Carolina towns and cities to receive a Works Progress Administration–constructed armory during the 1930s. The Sanford Armory was designed by Greensboro architect Joseph J. Sawyer and built by contractor J. L. Russell in 1938, and it is similar architecturally to the armory built in Lumberton during the same period. The building was intended primarily as the headquarters of Battery E. 113th F. A., but it also served as a community center and recreation facility.

The spartan two-story building combines modern materials such as aluminum with a symmetrical front that evokes the facade of a classical temple. The front elevation features three entries surmounted by circular seals, a peaked parapet with a central flag standard, decorative window compositions, and flanking one-story wings. The interior contains an auditorium/gymnasium with painted brick walls, exposed steel roof trusses, a stage, and a balcony.

Sources: Plaque on building; Cohn, *North Carolina WPA*; Railroad House Collection.



Sanford Armory

ARTHUR H. McIVER HOUSE

1020 Carthage Street
Sanford
1939

Arthur Homer McIver (1898–1975) ranked among Sanford's most successful twentieth-century businessmen. McIver and Doyle McFarland opened Mack's 5, 10 & 25-Cent Store in Sanford in 1923; by 1925, they had opened a store in Dillon, South Carolina, and by 1937 the chain operated over a dozen stores in North and South Carolina. The chain later went by the name Maxway. Outside the world of business, McIver involved himself in many aspects of local life, serving as chairman of the board of the Lee County Hospital during the 1950s among other acts of service and philanthropy.

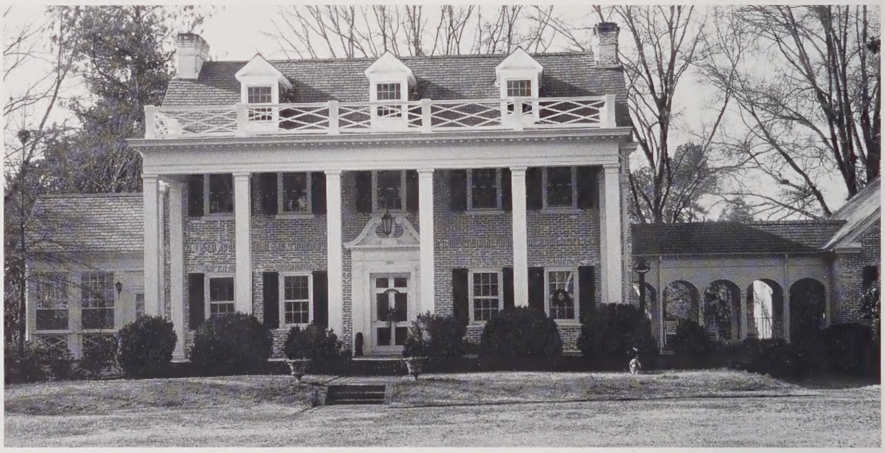
In 1939, McIver had this imposing Colonial Revival residence built on the site of an earlier farm. The two-story brick house was designed by the Wilson architectural firm of Charles Benton & Sons and was built by local contractor Leslie P. Cox. John Westmoreland, Sr., and Woodrow Stone did the plasterwork. A monumental front portico with square wood columns and a Chinese-inspired balustrade dominates the front of the house. The portico shelters a front entry with a surround of fluted Ionic pilasters surmounted by a broken scroll pediment with a central pineapple motif. Above the portico are three pedimented dormers projecting from a slate gable roof. From one end of the house extends a glassed-in porch; on the opposite end is an arcaded hyphen that connects to a garage and office wing.

The front entry opens through a small vestibule into a grand entry hall, at the back of which rises a curved stair with scrolled tread brackets and turned balusters. The living room features a classically inspired mantel with gouge work, sunburst motifs, and fluted pilasters set in a projecting surround defined by floor-to-ceiling pilasters. The dining room retains its original wallpaper portraying Chinese landscapes. The entry hall and the other principal first-story rooms have paneled wainscots and plaster cornices.

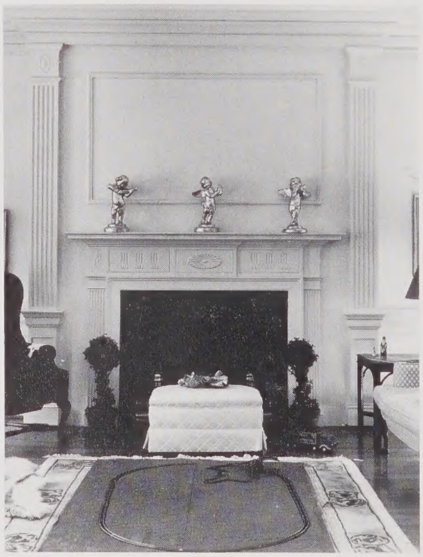
In front of the McIver House extends a terraced yard bordered by evergreen and deciduous ornamentals. To the rear are remnants of the preexisting farm on the property, which was owned by the Wicker family. These remnants include a gambrel-roofed frame barn dating to the early 1900s and a brownstone well curb with a shaped lip. At the east edge of the property is a one-story frame dwelling that may be a remodeled tenant house.

Owner: Paul O. Howard.

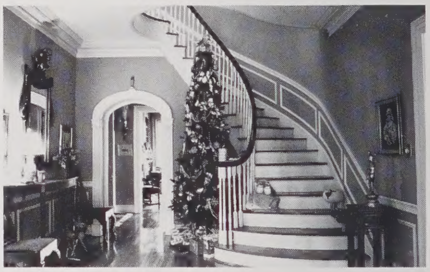
Sources: Paul O. Howard; John Westmoreland, Jr.; *Sanford Herald*, August 5, 1937, and April 3, 1959; Bowen and Black, "Downtown Sanford Historic District."



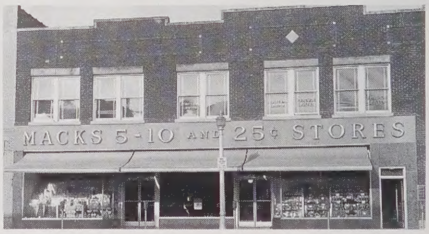
Arthur H. McIver House



Mantel in first-story south room



Entry hall and stair



Mack's 5, 10 & 25-Cent Store (Courtesy of Hal Tysinger)

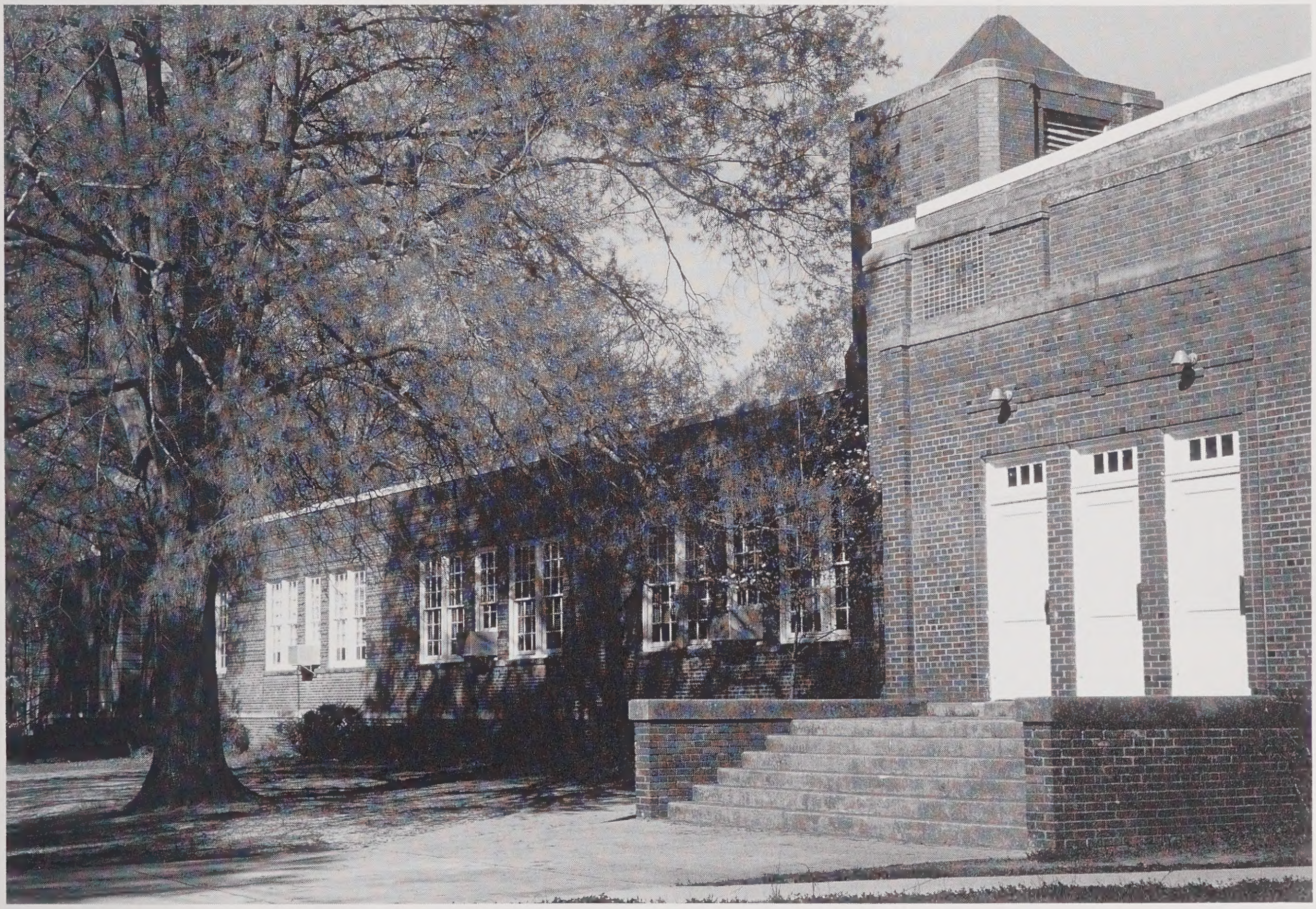
ST. CLAIR SCHOOL

526 Cross Street
Sanford
1939–40

St. Clair (Elementary) School was named in honor of Adelaide Alston "Miss Addie" St. Clair (1865–1949), who taught in private and public schools in Moore and Lee counties from 1890 to 1941. Funds to build the one-story school were received from the Works Progress Administration in 1939, and construction took place in 1939 and 1940 with WPA labor. The Isenhour brick plants supplied the bricks for the school, and William L. Jewell supervised the construction work. Early services of Sanford's Lutheran congregation (later to form Trinity Lutheran Church) were held in the auditorium in 1944.

St. Clair School features unusual detailing. The exterior walls are embellished with horizontal bands formed by projecting brick courses. The auditorium at the north end of the building features a corner tower checkered with projecting squares of brick and capped with a metal-sheathed pyramidal roof. Banks of large nine-over-nine-sash windows with white-painted trim lend a Colonial Revival character to the building. Additions were made to the school in 1943 and 1949.

Sources: 1991 St. Clair School Student/Teacher Handbook; Sanford Board of Education minutes, February 13, March 19, September 5, and October 5, 1939, and May 20, 1940; "Trinity Lutheran Church."



St. Clair School

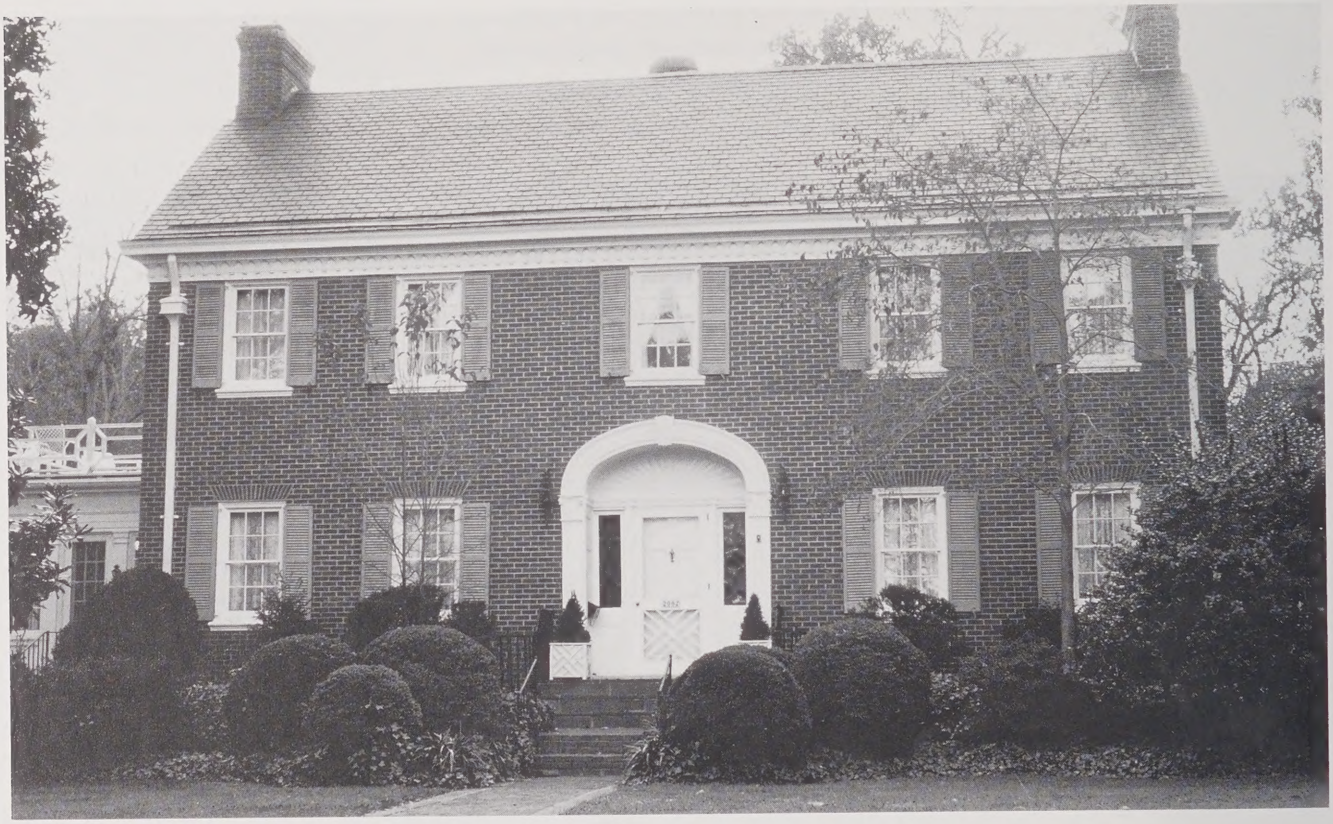
LONNIE L. THOMAS HOUSE

2002 Lee Avenue
Jonesboro
Ca. 1941

Merchant and rural mail carrier Lonnie L. Thomas commissioned architect Charles Benton of Wilson and local builder Leslie P. Cox to design and build this two-story brick Colonial Revival house around 1941. The house features a slate gable roof, a decorative cornice, and an arched front entry with a fanlike wooden transom panel. The interior is equally refined, with a curving stair in the entry hall and fluted fireplace surrounds in the first-story rooms.

Owners: John and Nancy Wyhof.

Sources: Mr. and Mrs. Don Roscoe, former owners; Philip H. McDavid, Lee County historian; original construction drawings, now curated by the N.C. Division of Archives and History.

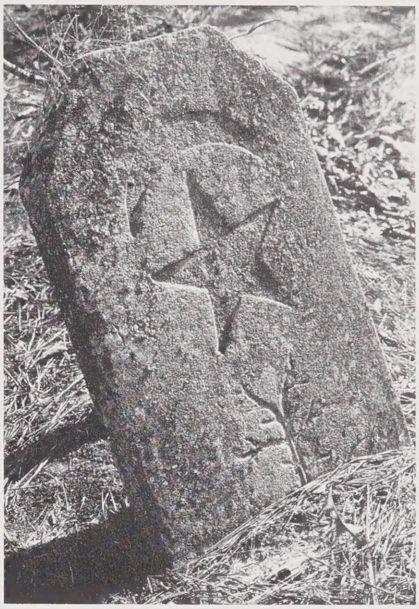


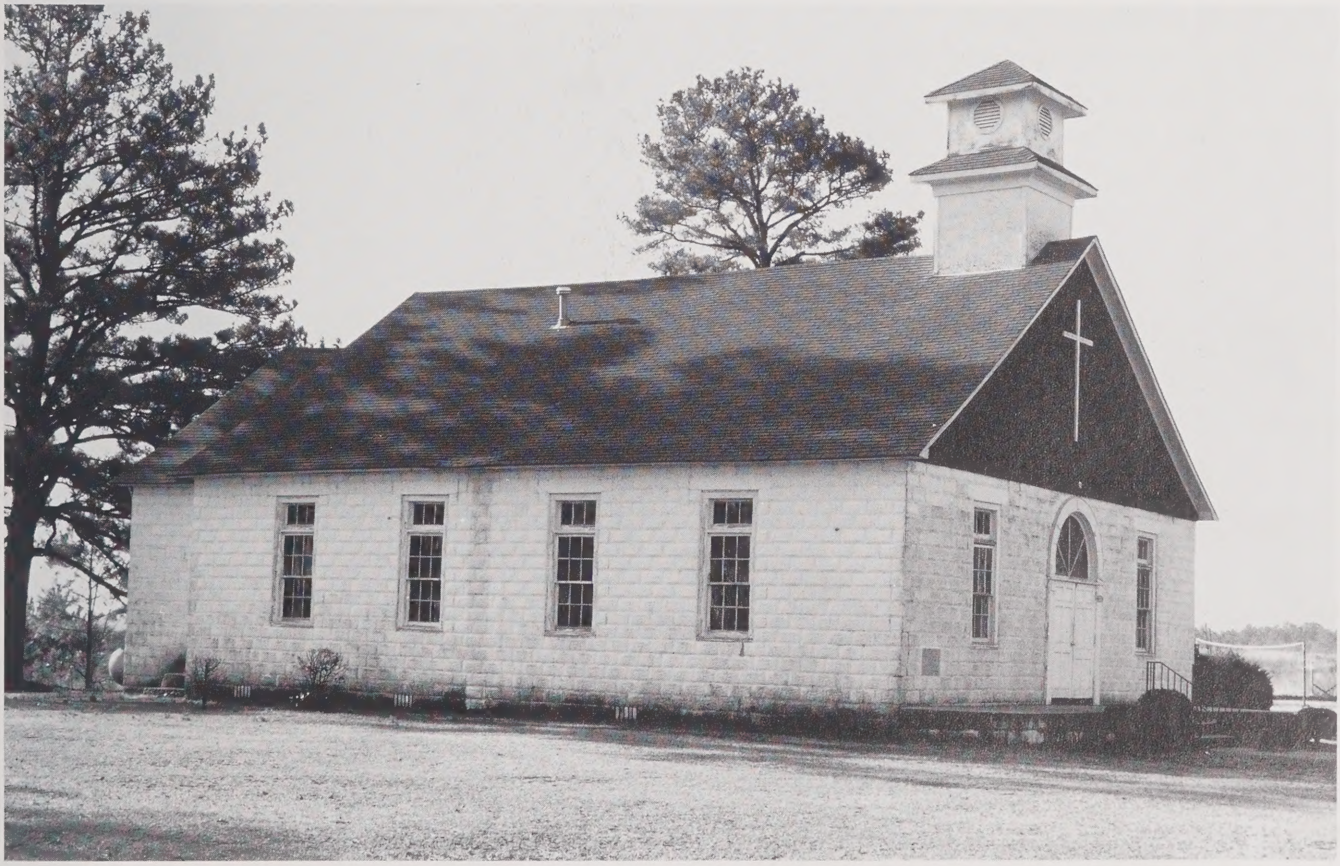
Lonnie L. Thomas House

6819 Sanders Road (SR 1177)
Lemon Springs vicinity
1943

McQueen Chapel organized in 1908, and the present church was built in 1943 of rock-faced concrete block. During World War II, the church members as well as other Lee County blacks struggled under the combined effect of materials rationing and segregation; concrete block was one of the few available building materials. The Rev. Jake Stewart of Sanford apparently made the block for the church, using a hand-operated block machine. The result was a large nave-form building with a belfry, a front-gable entrance with a semicircular transom, and a gabled rear projection. To the south side of the church extends a cinder-block fellowship hall built in 1978 according to a design by architect Gordon Peebles. The adjoining cemetery has several cast-concrete markers, dating to the mid-twentieth century, with impressed star, moon, and tree of life motifs. The McIver School, built by A. Lincoln Boykin in 1928, formerly stood nearby. (This McIver School is not to be confused with the East Sanford Graded School—also known as the McIver School—that stands at 219 Maple Avenue in Sanford.) McQueen Chapel was renovated in the Colonial Revival style after the accompanying photograph was taken in 1992.

Sources: Interviews with church members; Ruby T. Maxwell, Lee County historian; Lee County Board of Education minutes, August 2, 1926; Isley, "Survey of the Negro Schools of Lee County."


Cast-concrete headstone in cemetery

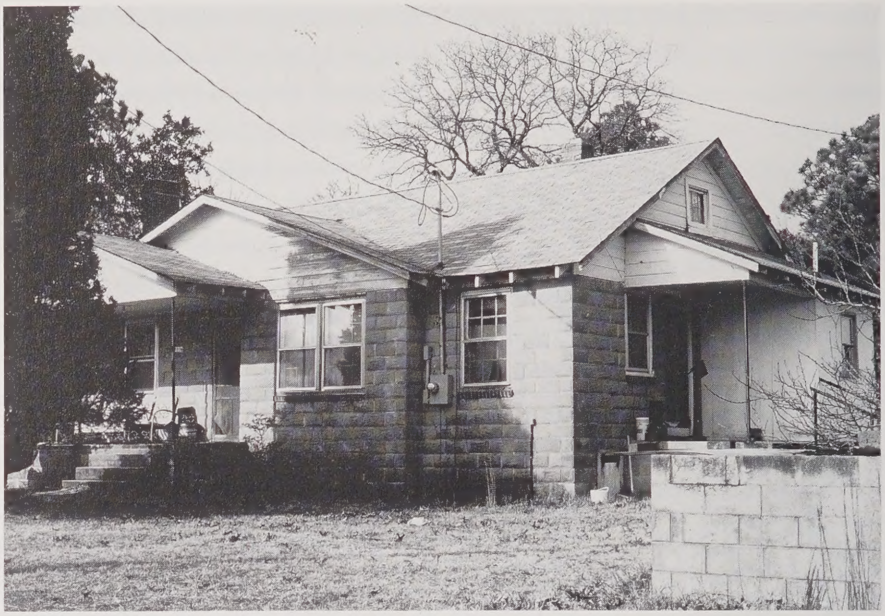

McQueen Chapel United Methodist Church, 1992

MELISSA McIVER AND MAGGIE WATSON HOUSES

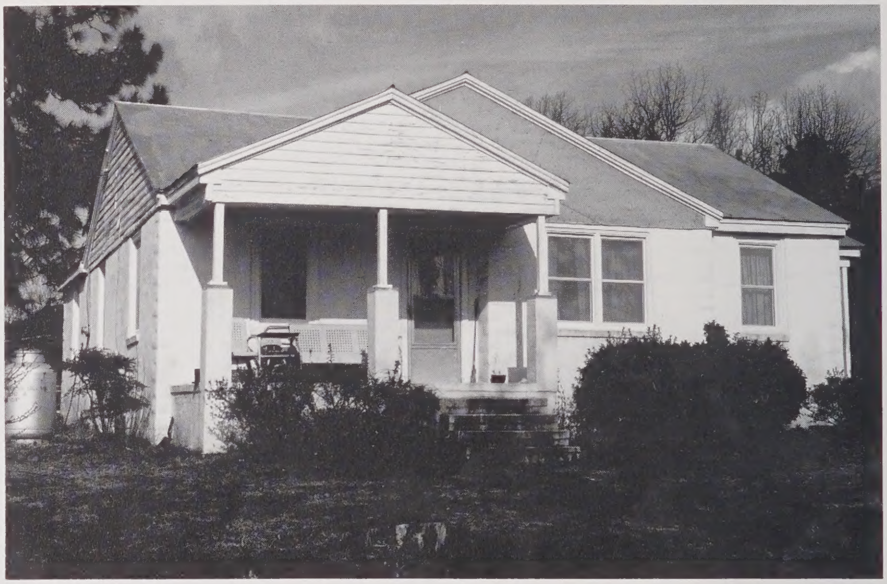
7026 and 7038 Sanders Road (SR 1177)
Lemon Springs vicinity
Ca. 1947

When Melissa McIver decided to have a house built shortly after World War II, materials rationing had just ended and Lee County's African-American citizens in particular found it difficult to obtain conventional building materials. McIver's solution was to build out of rock-faced concrete block, and in 1947 she hired a man from Sanford (probably John Smith) to build this Craftsman one-story house. After the house was finished, McIver's friend Maggie Watson built a house next door using leftover block, and another friend, Thelma Harrison, helped Watson get lumber from Laurinburg, South Carolina. John Smith began the work on the Watson House, and neighbor N. E. Nixon finished it. Like the McIver House, the Watson House is a one-story Craftsman dwelling. The rock-faced block was used only at the corners in a simulation of quoining; the rest of the Watson House is constructed of smooth-faced block, and the exterior walls are stuccoed over and painted white.

Owner: Maggie Watson.
Sources: Maggie Watson; Lee County Deed Book 42, pp. 511 and 512.



Melissa McIver House



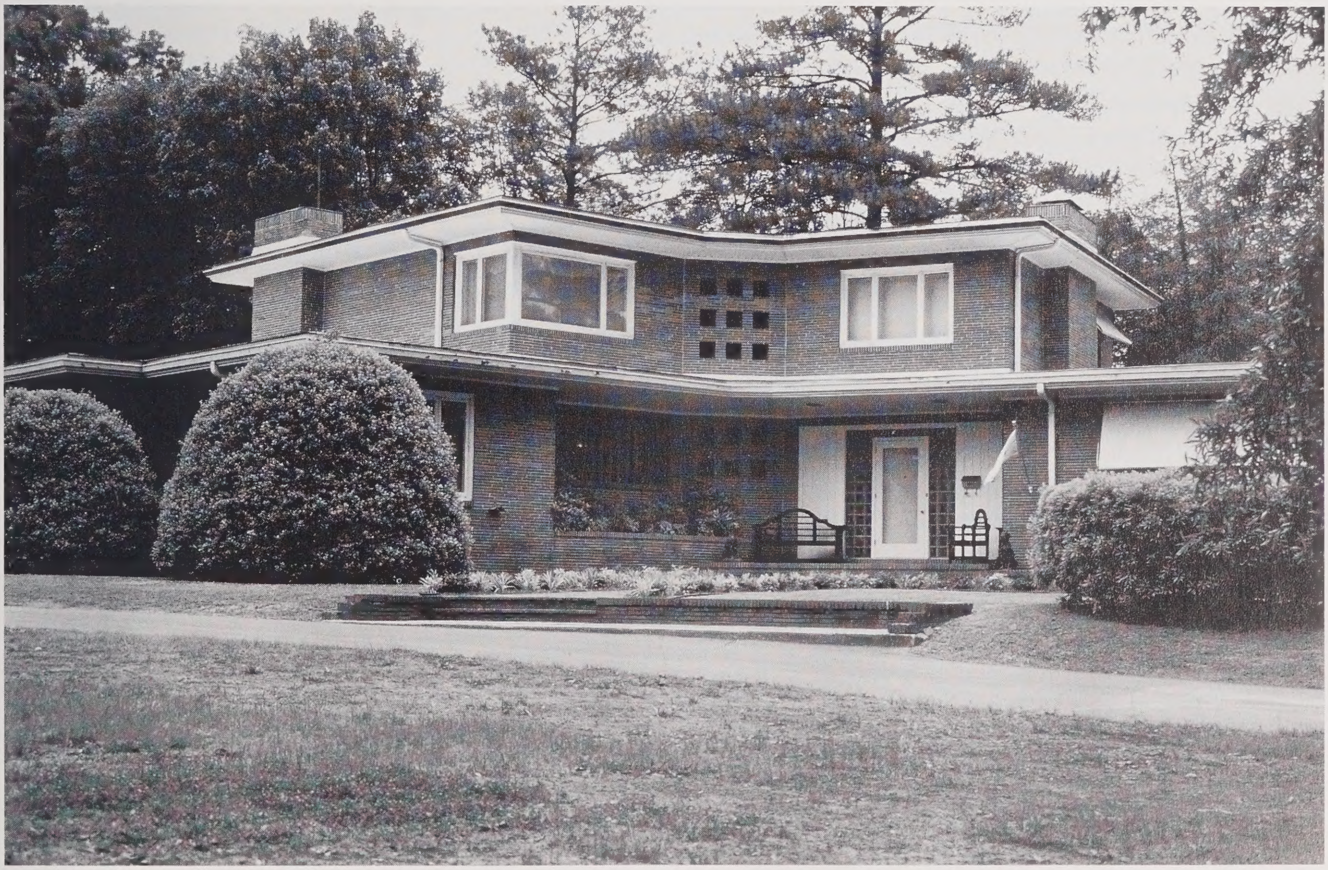
Maggie Watson House

300 Carbonton Road
Sanford
1949–50

Lewis D. Isenhour was president of Sanford Brick & Tile when this radically modern house was built for him in 1949–50. (Isenhour's first house, a Tudor Revival residence located at 318 Summit Drive, was completed in 1929.) Isenhour's architects were Jesse M. Page, Jr., and William Correll of Raleigh. Page convinced Isenhour to manufacture 12-inch- and 16-inch-long Roman bricks for use in the house; this led to Isenhour's commercial production of the specialty brick during the early 1950s. The Isenhours were active participants in the schematic design phase, and later they accompanied the architects and North Carolina State University interior designer John Knight to New York City to choose furnishings for the house. The plasterwork in the house was completed by subcontractors John Westmoreland, Sr., and his son, John, Jr.

The two-story house shows the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright in its angled plan, sweeping horizontal massing, sheltered walkways, and corner windows. A brick esplanade leads from the circular drive to the front entry, which has a glass-block surround. The entry is located next to the pivot point of the plan, a stair shaft marked by a two-story expanse of square glass-block windows. To the rear, across a brick-paved auto court and linked to the main house by a brick and metal sheltered walkway, is a two-story dependency containing the garage and maid's quarters. The original interior finishes have been altered.

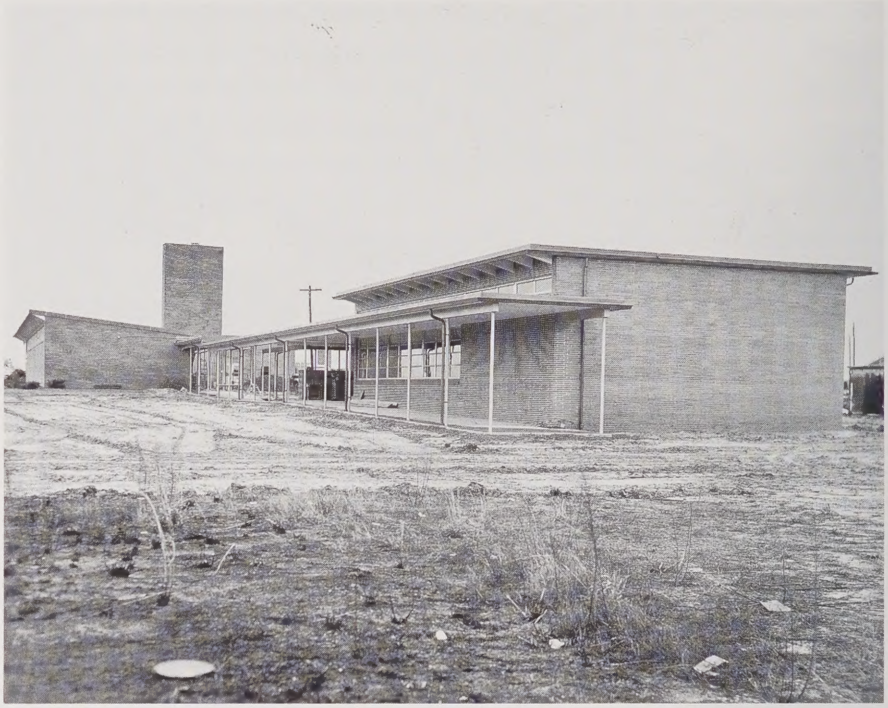
Owner: Hazel I. Graef.
Sources: Hazel I. Graef; William Corell and John Westmoreland, Jr.; Robert E. Brickhouse, Lee County brick industry historian; Koyl, *American Architects Directory, 1956.*



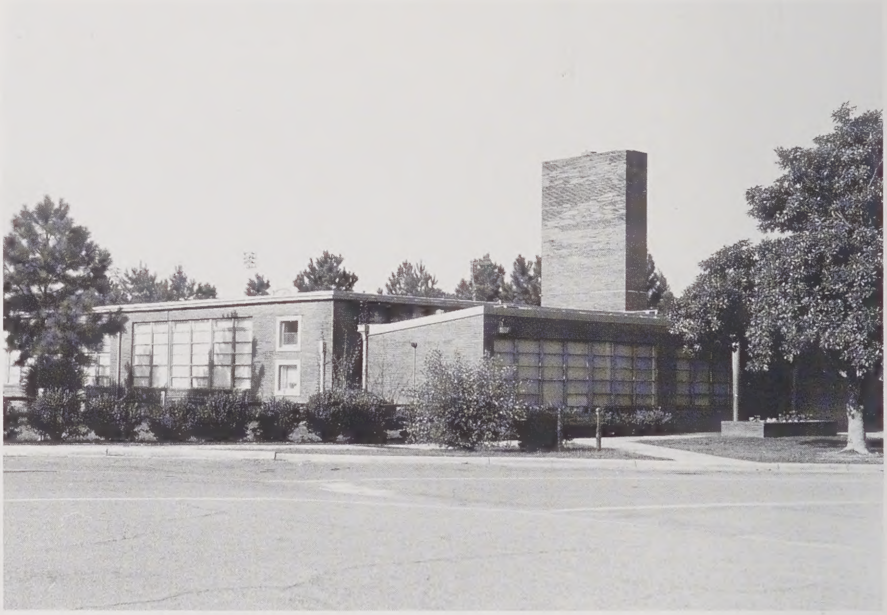
Lewis D. Isenhour House (Carbonton Road)

LEE COUNTY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL)

1708 Nash Street
Sanford
1950



Lee County Senior High School under construction



High School, 1994

Sanford's population grew rapidly during the late 1940s, swelled by post-war economic expansion and the annexation of the town of Jonesboro. The high school–aged population also grew, and in 1949 planning was begun for a new high school, to be constructed on the town's airport property. Raleigh architect Jesse M. Page, then working on the Lewis D. Isenhour House, was tapped for the job of designing the facility. Since Page had little experience with school design, he formed an association with another Raleigh architect and school specialist, Owen Smith. The Wrenn-Wilson Construction Company of Durham was chosen as the builder, and the school was designed and built in sections as funding permitted. Page and Smith worked on the project through 1954; later buildings were designed by Southern Pines architect Tommy Hayes.

The earliest section of Lee County Senior High School (as the facility has been known since 1977) is of modern design, with two flat-roofed brick wings joined in an "L" configuration. This section includes a slablike brick boiler stack as well as porches and covered walkways supported by metal columns. The building also features a precast concrete roof system and Roman brick produced at Sanford Brick & Tile.

Sources: Owen Smith; Sanford Board of Education minutes, November 11 and December 12, 1949, and April 17, 1950; *Sanford Herald*, February 19, 1951, and March 15, 1977; *The State*, March 13, 1954; Koyl, *American Architects Directory, 1956*.

GLOSSARY

ACADEMIC Describes a building derived from the canon of architectural scholarship or from professionally designed prototypes. *See also* HIGH-STYLE; VERNACULAR.

ACCENT BLOCK A masonry element, usually square or diamond-shaped, used as a decorative element in Craftsman-style domestic and commercial architecture.

ARCADE A series of arches. A *blind arcade* is a series of archlike decorative elements on a solid wall.

ARCH A curved structural element that spans an opening. An arch is usually of masonry construction and is composed of wedge-shaped *voussoir* blocks and, in some examples, a specialized *keystone* at the top of the curve and *skewbacks* at the bases of the curve. A *jack arch* is flat and is often supported by a concealed lintel. A *round arch* is semicircular in form. A *segmental arch* consists of a curved segment that is less than a semicircle (bow-shaped). A *basket-handle arch* has a flattened curve or semi-elliptical form. A *lancet arch*, characteristic of the Gothic Revival style, is composed of two curved sections that meet at a point. A *Tudor arch*, characteristic of the Tudor Revival style, is a flattened form of the lancet arch. An *ogee arch* has an upside-down teardrop form. A *relieving arch* is an arch built into a wall to better distribute a load, without an opening underneath.

ARCHITECTURAL GLASS Opaque colored glass used as an exterior facing, usually in storefronts from the mid-twentieth century. Sometimes called Carrara Glass or Vitrolite, two popular brand names.

ARCHITRAVE A molded surround, usually a Georgian- or Georgian Revival–style fireplace surround without pilasters and frieze. *See also* SURROUND.

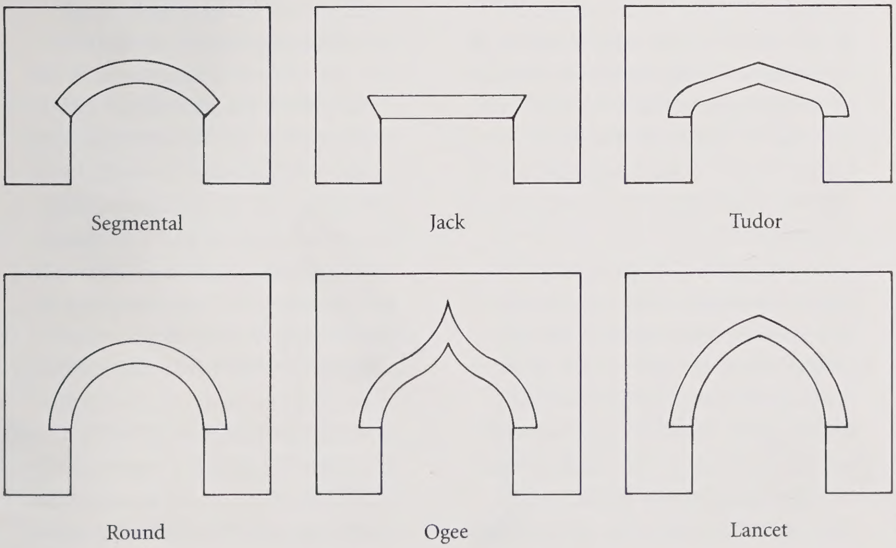
ART DECO STYLE An architectural style occurring infrequently in Lee County during the 1930s. Characterized by stepped or geometrical ornament. Example: Sanford Coca-Cola Bottling Plant on Charlotte Avenue.

ASHLAR Finely finished masonry composed of rectangular blocks.

BACK-RISING Used in the text to describe a stair that rises from the back of a center passage forward (rather than rising from the front of the passage backward, as is customary) or that rises from a rear porch or range of rooms forward through the main body of the house. Associated with nineteenth-century houses in Lee County, especially two-story Georgian and Greek Revival houses. *Examples:* Tyson House, Obediah and Sarah Farrar House.

BALUSTER/BALUSTRADE A baluster is a turned or sawn element usually employed to support a stair or porch railing. A balustrade is a series of balusters.

Arches



Segmental Jack Tudor

Round Ogee Lancet

BARREL VAULT A vault with a semicircular cross-section. Some aboveground Lee County tombs are barrel-vaulted.

BASEBOARD A board at the base of a wall adjoining the floor. Sometimes called a mop-board.

BASKET-HANDLE ARCH *See* ARCH.

BASKETWEAVE *See* BRICK.

BAS-RELIEF Carving that projects slightly from a background.

BATTEN DOOR/SHUTTER A door or shutter constructed of vertical boards held in place by horizontal battens. Usually of cruder construction than panel doors.

BAY A division of the elevation of a building. For example, a house with a front door flanked by two windows would be described as having a three-bay facade.

BAY WINDOW *See* WINDOW.

BEAD A simple round molding, usually cut into the lower edge of a weatherboard or the edges of a tongue-and-groove board. *See also* TONGUE-AND-GROOVE.

BOARD ROOF A roof sheathed with wood boards, an early alternative to wood shingle roofing. The boards may be nailed horizontally to rafters or fastened vertically to log purlins. In the Sandhills region, the boards appear to have been supported by purlins attached to rafters. *Examples:* McGregor-Jackson House, David Gaster cotton house.

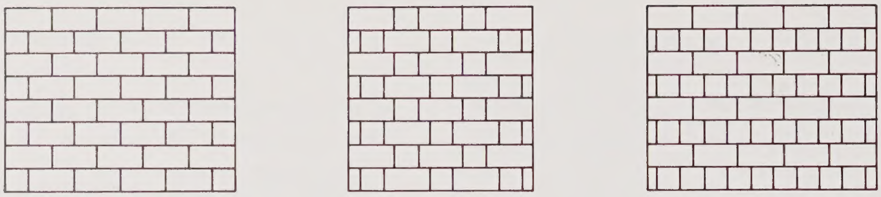
BOND *See* BRICK.

BOX CONSTRUCTION A form of building that uses vertical wood boards or planks instead of studs for both structure and enclosure.

BREEZEWAY A short open-air passageway connecting a house to a rear dependency, usually a kitchen.

BRICK A clay (or shale) masonry unit, solid or partly hollow, that is formed in a mold and fired until hard. When laid in a wall so that its long side is visible, referred to as a *stretcher brick.* When laid so that its short end is visible, re-

Brick bond



Stretcher Flemish English

ferred to as a *header brick*. A *closer brick* is a partial brick used at the end of a course to even it up. A *gauged brick* is a brick that has been shaped to form part of a jack arch. (Gauged and closer bricks are associated with early brickwork.) The coursing or pattern of bricks in a wall is referred to as the *bond*, and the divisions between bricks and courses are referred to as *mortar joints*. *Stretcher bond* is composed of stretcher bricks exclusively. *Flemish bond* is composed of alternating stretcher and header bricks and is associated with early and Colonial Revival brickwork. *English bond* is composed of courses of stretcher bricks alternating with courses of header bricks. A *soldier course* is formed by stretcher bricks standing on end and lined up over a window or in a parapet. *Basketweave* refers to stretcher bricks laid horizontally and vertically to form a checkerboard pattern. *Houndstooth* refers to bricks set at an angle, creating a sawtooth appearance. *Paving* refers to bricks used like pavers to cover the sloped shoulders of early chimneys. *Tumbling* refers to bricks laid in diagonal courses to form chimney shoulders or the edge of a gable; it is associated with Lee County's decorative mid-1800s chimneys and with the Tudor Revival style. *Penciling* refers to the painting of a line (usually white) along the mortar joints.

BRICK TILE A fired clay (or shale) masonry unit that is larger than a brick and is usually hollow. Also known as tile block.

BUNGALOW A one-story or story-and-a-half house detailed in the Craftsman style and most popular in Lee County from about 1910 to about 1940. *See also* CRAFTSMAN STYLE.

CAPITAL The top section of a column, often decorative. *See also* ORDER.

CASTELLATION Decorative battlement-like elements at the top of a parapet or chimney. Also known as crenelation.

CENTER PASSAGE A centrally located passageway that extends from the front to the back of a house, dividing the house into two equal or nearly equal halves.

CENTER-PASSAGE PLAN A house plan characterized by two rooms or two pairs of rooms of nearly equal size separated and served by a center passage. In Lee County, this type of plan most often occurs in Greek Revival, Victorian, and Colonial Revival houses.

CHAIR RAIL A horizontal trim board, often molded, attached to an interior wall several feet above the floor.

CHAMFER The beveled edge or corner of a beam or post.

CIRCULAR-SAWN Sawn with a mechanical circular saw, creating curved saw marks. In Lee County, generally indicative of construction occurring after 1850.

CLASSICAL Used in the text to refer to architectural forms derived from classical Greek and Roman architecture.

CLASSICAL REVIVAL STYLE An architectural style most popular in Lee County from 1900 to 1930. Characterized by the use of classical Greek and Roman forms and ornament, especially monumental porticos. In Lee County, related to the Colonial Revival style. *Examples:* Lee County Courthouse, Edwin and L. and Mary Gavin House. *See also* ORDER.

CLOSER *See* BRICK.

COASTAL COTTAGE A house form prevalent in the coastal areas of North Carolina from the 1700s through the early 1900s. Characterized by a one-story or story-and-a-half dwelling contained under a gable roof that also embraces a front porch and a rear porch or shed rooms. Related to the Creole cottage form that occurs in other areas of the southeastern United States. *Examples:* Douglas-Lett House, David Gaster House.

COLLAR BEAM A structural member that links a rafter couple (like the cross line in the letter A).

COLONETTE A small, slender column often used decoratively in mantels from the late 1800s and early 1900s.

COLONIAL REVIVAL STYLE An architectural style most popular in Lee County from about 1920 to the present. Characterized by the use of classical forms and detailing (or, in more academic examples, allusions to Colonial- or Early National-period American architecture) and symmetrical composition. Also referred to as the Georgian Revival style. In Lee County, related to the Classical Revival style. *Examples:* A. H. McIver House, St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church (remodeling).

CONSOLE A scrolled bracket.

CORBEL An outward stepping of bricks, stones, or other masonry units used decoratively or to support an overhanging element.

CORINTHIAN *See* ORDER.

CORNER BLOCK A decorative blocklike element used to define the corner of a door or window surround.

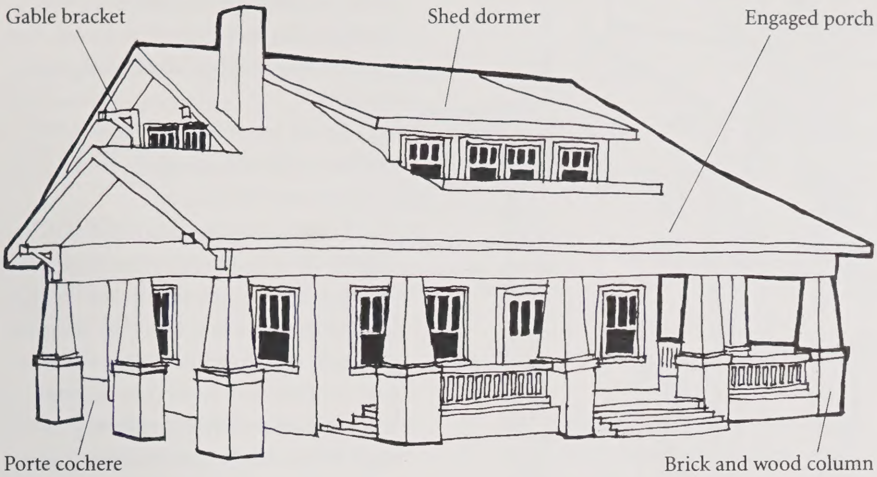
CORNICE A crowning element, usually highly decorative, at the top of a wall but below a parapet.

CORNICE RETURNS Sections of cornice appearing in a gable or on the end of a building.

COVE A concave or canted surface. A coved ceiling has a canted section at the transition from wall to ceiling.

CRAFTSMAN STYLE An architectural style most popular in Lee County from about 1910 to about 1950. In Lee County domestic architecture, characterized by the use of broad, spreading forms; low-pitched gable roofs, often with gable and eaves brackets; and decorative windows and other details. The bungalow house form is associated with the style. A Craftsman porch is usually supported by tapered wood columns on brick bases. In Lee County commercial architecture, the Craftsman style is characterized by the use of decorative brickwork (often textured and richly colored) and accent blocks. Craftsman detail is sometimes used in

Craftsman house



combination with the Colonial Revival style, Mediterranean-derived styles, and so forth. *Examples:* George J. and Mary I. Casey House, Temple Theatre. *See also* BUNGALOW; COLONIAL REVIVAL STYLE; MEDITERRANEAN.

CRESTING Ornamental metal detailing used at the peaks of roofs, dormers, etc.

CROWN MOLDING A molding used at the top of an architectural element such as a porch post or wall.

DENTIL A small blocklike element used repetitively as a molding in classical and classically derived architecture.

DIAMOND NOTCH *See* NOTCHING.

DISCOID A headstone or other grave marker with a nearly circular top element or "head," often above a rectangular lower element or "body."

DORIC *See* ORDER.

DOUBLE-SHOULDERED *See* SHOULDER.

DOVETAIL NOTCHING *See* NOTCHING.

ECHINUS An elliptical convex molding characteristic of the Greek Revival style in Lee County.

ECLECTIC Used in the text to describe hybridizations of architectural styles, or as a general descriptive term for styles popular in Lee County during the 1920s and 1930s, such as the Craftsman, Mediterranean-derived, Tudor Revival, and Colonial Revival styles.

ELEVATION A side of a building. A front elevation is often referred to as a facade.

ENGAGED Attached to or partially embedded in a wall (a pilaster is an engaged column), or embraced by another architectural element (as the front porch of a coastal cottage or Craftsman bungalow is enclosed under the roof of the house).

ENGLISH BOND *See* BRICK.

ENTABLATURE In classical architecture, the section of a building elevation above columns or piers or at the top of a wall. Also used to describe the crowning element of a door or window.

ENTASIS A slight convex curvature of the profile of a column, or the tapering of a column or pilaster alluding to true entasis.

FACADE The front or principal side of a building.

FEDERAL STYLE An architectural style occurring infrequently in Lee County during the early nineteenth century.

FINIAL A terminal or topmost element on a newel, roof peak, etc.

FLEMISH BOND *See* BRICK.

FLUTING Vertical concave indentations along the length of a column, giving the surface of the column a rippled or scalloped appearance. In Lee County Greek Revival architecture, usually occurring as straight-edged grooves on the surface of a door or window surround.

FRIEZE Used in the text to describe the horizontal section at the top of a wall or a range of columns, piers, or pilasters but below the cornice, or to describe the horizontal section of a mantel that spans across the fireplace and is visually supported by pilasters on the sides of the fireplace, as in most Greek Revival mantels. The term "frieze profile" is used to describe the lower edge of a mantel frieze, especially when it is given a peaked or other decorative indentation.

GABLE ROOF *See* ROOF.

GAMBREL ROOF *See* ROOF.

GAUGED *See* BRICK.

GEORGIAN REVIVAL STYLE *See* COLONIAL REVIVAL STYLE.

GEORGIAN STYLE An architectural style dating to the early 1800s (and possibly the late 1700s) in Lee County, the earliest style to occur in the county. Characterized by the use of classical forms and detailing and symmetrical compositions. Now extremely rare in the county due to the loss of most early houses. *Example:* Tyson House (interior). Georgian is also used in the text to describe headstones with a complex profile.

GOTHIC REVIVAL STYLE An architectural style occurring infrequently in Lee County domestic and church architecture during the late 1800s and more frequently in twentieth-century church architecture. Characterized by allusions to medieval Gothic architecture: lancet-arched openings, peaked mantel frieze profiles, vertical detailing and composition. *Examples:* Railroad House, Buffalo Presbyterian Church.

GRAINING The painted simulation of wood grain.

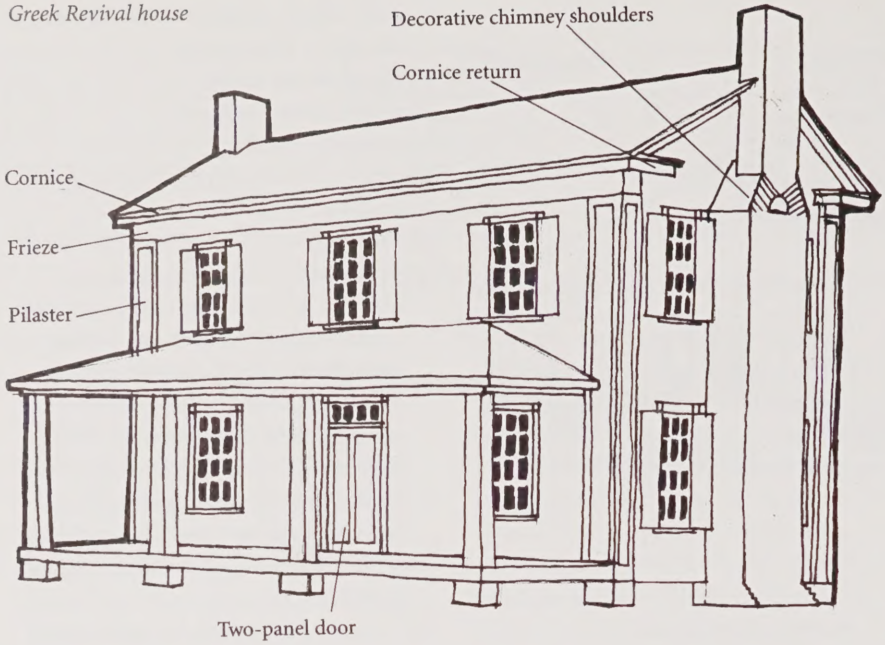
GREEK REVIVAL STYLE An architectural style popular in Lee County during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Nationally, the style emulated the simplicity and purity of classical Greek architecture, as typified by the Greek temple. In Lee County, Greek Revival architecture is characterized by symmetrical composition and columnar or trabeated detailing, as seen in corner pilasters, two-panel doors, and pilaster-and-frieze mantels. Most Lee County Greek Revival detail is vernacular in character. *Example:* Carbonton Academy Girls Dormitory.

H&L HINGE An early hinge type composed of iron shapes resembling the letters H and L side by side.

HALF-DOVETAIL NOTCHING *See* NOTCHING.

HALF-TIMBERING Frame construction characterized by the use of exposed timbers with masonry or stucco infill. Lee County examples of the technique, which are associated with Tudor Re-

Greek Revival house



vival architecture, are actually false half-timbering. *Example:* L. M. and Margaret Thompson House.

HALL-PARLOR PLAN A house plan characterized by two rooms of unequal size that are not separated by a center passage. The larger room is referred to as the hall; the smaller room is referred to as the parlor (not to be confused with the parlor—or best room—of a Victorian house). In Lee County, several early houses have or once had this plan.

HEADER *See* BRICK.

HIGH-STYLE Used in the text to describe buildings that exhibit many of the key characteristics of a particular style. Academic architecture may be described as high-style.

HIP-AND-GABLE ROOF *See* ROOF.

HIP ROOF *See* ROOF.

HOUNDSTOOTH *See* BRICK.

HYPHEN A connecting element; an arcade or range of rooms that connects a house and dependency.

IONIC *See* ORDER.

ITALIANATE STYLE An architectural style occurring infrequently in Lee County during the late 1800s. Locally, the style is characterized by paired cornice brackets and paired round-arched window panels in doors. *Example:* Kenneth H. and Margaret Worthy House (cornice).

JACK ARCH *See* ARCH.

JAZZ PAINTING A form of interior painting, popular during the 1920s, characterized by colorful, atmospheric effects.

KEYSTONE *See* ARCH.

KNEE WALL Used in the text to describe a short or half wall; for example, the wall in an upstairs room in a story-and-a-half house.

LANCET ARCH *See* ARCH.

LEDGER TOMB Used in the text to describe a rectangular stone slab used to cover a tomb or grave.

LINTEL A horizontal structural element that spans an opening.

MARBLING The painted simulation of marble.

MEDITERRANEAN Used in the text to describe any of the eclectic styles popular in Lee County during the 1920s and 1930s that derive from the architectural traditions of the Mediterranean (specifically Spain and Italy) and, by extension, the Hispanic New World (specifically California, Florida, and the American Southwest), including the Mission, Spanish Eclectic, and Italian Renaissance Revival styles. *Examples:* Bowen Motor Company, Coulter-Lano House.

MODERNIST An architectural style most popular in Lee County from the late 1930s to the present. Characterized by the use of simple, geometric forms, modern materials (concrete, aluminum, plate glass), and a general absence of applied ornament. The Craftsman, Art Deco, and Prairie styles may be considered precursors to Modernist architecture. *Examples:* Lewis D. Isenhour House (Carbonton Road), Lee County Senior High School (original section).

MODILLION A blocklike element in a cornice under the eaves of a roof.

MORTAR JOINTS *See* BRICK.

MORTISE-AND-TENON CONSTRUCTION A construction technique in which framing members are joined together with a projecting tenon and a slotlike mortise generally held together with a wooden peg. Mortise-and-tenon heavy frame construction eventually gave way to light nailed frame construction in Lee County.

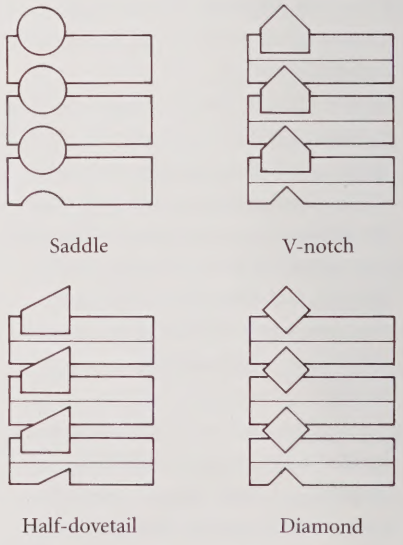
MULTIFOIL An ornament or opening with multiple lobes.

NAVE FORM Used in the text to describe a church with a rectangular-plan sanctuary entered at its short end.

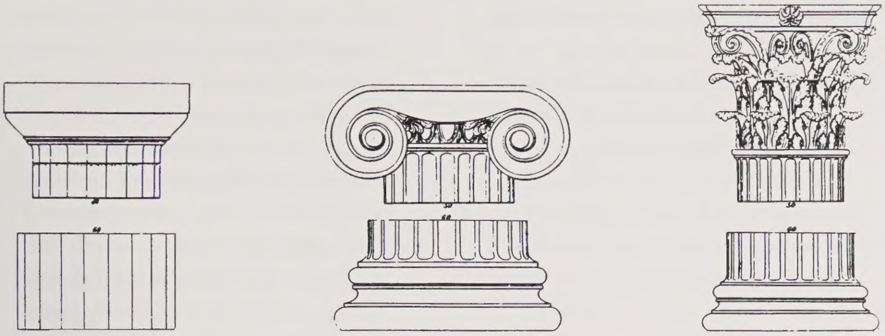
NOTCHING The technique by which logs are joined at their ends in log construction. *Saddle-notching* is the simplest form, in which round (unhewn) logs are joined together with scalloped notches (like toy Lincoln Logs). In *V-notching*, the ends of the logs have an inverted V form. In *half-dovetail notching*, the top of the end of the log is sloped and the bottom is squared. In *dovetail notching* (rare or no longer extant in Lee County), both the top and bottom of the end of the log are sloped. In *diamond notching*, the ends of the logs are diamond-shaped.

OGEE ARCH *See* ARCH.

Notching



Order



Doric Ionic Corinthian

ORDER In classical architecture, the style or system of proportion and detail of a column and related elements. There are three principal orders of classical Greek and Roman architecture. The *Doric Order* is characterized by simplicity, with a molded column capital. The *Ionic Order* has capitals with dominant spiraled volutes. The *Corinthian Order*, the most ornate, is characterized by delicate leaflike ornament and small volutes. In Lee County, the classical orders are used most often in Classical Revival and Colonial Revival architecture. Vernacular compositions based on the orders are used in local Greek Revival architecture. Not discussed in the text are two orders derived from classical Roman architecture: the Tuscan and the Composite.

ORIEL WINDOW *See* WINDOW.

OUTRIGGER A structural or ornamental element in a gable that supports or appears to support the roof.

OVERMANTEL The section of a mantel over the mantel shelf. Georgian- and Georgian Revival–style overmantels are often composed of panels. Victorian overmantels often feature mirrors, colonettes, and other ornament.

PALLADIAN WINDOW *See* WINDOW.

PARGING A mud, plaster, or stucco finish.

PATERA (plural: paterae) A round ornamental feature, often with petal or leaflike decoration. *See also* ROSETTE.

PAVED *See* BRICK.

PAVILION A horizontal division of a facade, usually several bays in width, that may project from the facade.

PEAKED Denoting a pointed profile suggestive of a pediment or a lancet arch.

PEDIMENT In classical architecture, the triangular end of a gable roof, defined by cornices. Used as a decorative element above a door or window opening in Colonial Revival architecture, sometimes broken and/or scrolled at the center.

PENCILING *See* BRICK.

PENT ROOF A visorlike roof that projects from the surface of a wall.

PILASTER An engaged column, or a columnlike element that visually supports the frieze in a Greek Revival mantel.

PIT-SAWN *See* STRAIGHT-SAWN.

POLYCHROME Using two or more colors.

PORTE COCHERE A covered area in which to park a carriage or automobile or load and unload passengers, often treated as an extension of a porch.

PRAIRIE STYLE An architectural style derived from the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and others, characterized by spreading forms, low-pitched hip roofs, and geometric ornament. Occurring rarely and incompletely in Lee County during the early twentieth century. Associated with the Craftsman style. *Example:* A. Lincoln and Lula Boykin House.

PRISM GLASS Small squares of textured and often tinted glass used to form a transom over a store front.

PROSCENIUM ARCH The opening that frames a stage.

PURLIN A horizontal roof member, either one that spans between the gables or one supported by rafters. Also used historically to describe a horizontal member in a crib dam.

PYRAMIDAL ROOF *See* ROOF.

QUARREL A small diamond-shaped windowpane. Associated with Tudor Revival architecture in Lee County.

QUATREFOIL A four-lobed ornament or opening. Associated with Tudor Revival architecture in Lee County.

QUEEN ANNE STYLE *See* VICTORIAN.

QUOIN A usually decorative corner treatment in stone or projecting brickwork.

RAFTER TAIL The eaves end of a rafter.

RAKE BOARD A board running along the edge of a gable.

REEDING Delicate parallel convex moldings or beading that create a corrugated appearance.

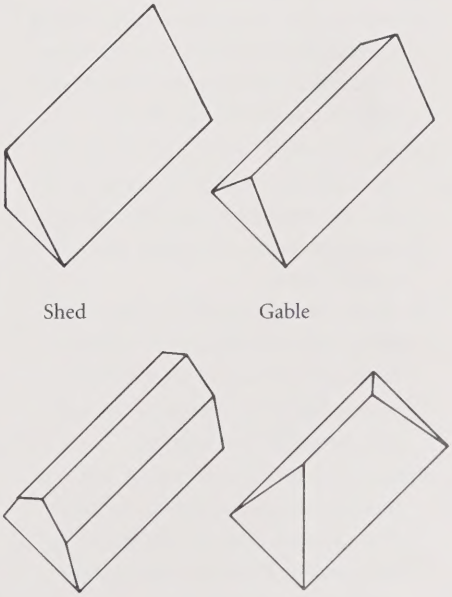
RELIEVING ARCH *See* ARCH.

RETICULATED Used in the text to describe an ornamental grille or balustrade with a net- or weblike appearance.

ROCK-FACED The rough surface of a stone or concrete block, either natural or simulated.

ROOF The cover of a building. A *shed roof* is a single-sloped roof. A *gable roof* is a double-sloped roof with a triangular or A-shaped section. A *gambrel roof* is a double-sloped roof with a double-sloped pitch to each slope, associated in Lee County with dairy barns and certain Colonial Revival houses. A *hip roof* has four slopes; a *pyramidal roof* is a form of hip roof in which the four roof slopes meet at a single point. A *hip-and-gable roof* is a hip roof with gabled wings, usually associated with Victorian and Queen Anne domestic architecture. The roofs of Craftsman and Colonial Revival houses often feature *dormers*, windows that project

Roof types



Shed Gable

Gambrel Hip

from the slope of the roof and that can have gable, pedimented gable, shed, or hip roofs.

ROSETTE A circular ornament.

RUN A series of steps uninterrupted by a landing or winder.

RUSTICATED Used in the text to describe horizontally banded masonry.

RUSTIC STYLE An architectural style popular in Lee County from the 1920s to the present. Characterized by the use of traditional, "pioneer," or natural forms, materials, and building techniques such as log construction, rubble masonry, and unfinished surfaces. *Examples:* North State Pottery and A. R. Cole Pottery sales cabins.

SADDLE-NOTCHING *See* NOTCHING.

SASH *See* WINDOW.

SCUPPER Used in the text to describe an opening in the wall of a porch at the level of the porch floor, used for drainage, ventilation, or in cleaning.

SEGMENTAL ARCH *See* ARCH.

SHED ROOF *See* ROOF.

SHOULDER The point at which the body of a chimney narrows, usually at the level of the eaves. Most chimney shoulders are stepped, some are paved. Some early chimneys are double-shouldered, with shoulders above the fireplaces at the first- and second-story levels.

SMOKING A decorative painting technique in which the flame of a lamp is passed under a coat of fresh paint, creating dark meandering figures.

SOLDIER COURSE *See* BRICK.

SPANDREL The triangular section of wall under a flight of steps, or the section of wall that spans between windows on consecutive stories of a facade.

SPINDLE A small turned piece of wood used ornamentally in Victorian architecture, sometimes used repetitively under the eaves of a porch roof as a spindle frieze.

SPLAYED Having sloped or canted surfaces. The sides of door or window openings are sometimes splayed to emphasize the thickness of the wall penetrated by the opening.

STRAIGHT-SAWN Sawn by a pit saw or a mechanical up-and-down saw, with characteristic straight saw marks. In Lee County, generally indicative of antebellum construction.

STRETCHER *See* BRICK.

STRINGER An inclined structural member that supports the steps in a staircase. Also known as a string.

TABLE TOMB Used in the text to describe a rectangular stone slab supported by stone legs or other supports over a tomb or grave.

TERRA COTTA A fired clay material, glazed or unglazed, used for architectural ornament.

TIER POLE A pole or beam inside a tobacco barn used to suspend tobacco during the curing process.

TONGUE-AND-GROOVE A joint used to connect the ends of boards. Beaded tongue-and-groove boards are narrow boards decorated with one or more rows of beading that were mass-produced during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

TREAD BRACKET A decorative element, often scrolled, applied to the end of a step under the lip of the tread.

TUDOR ARCH *See* ARCH.

TUDOR REVIVAL STYLE An architectural style most popular in Lee County during the 1920s and 1930s. The style is derived from the architecture of medieval and early modern England and is characterized by asymmetrical compositions and ornament such as (false) half-timbering, tumbled brickwork, quarrel-pane windows, etc. *Examples:* Harry and Lillian Isaacson House, Stroud-Hubbard Building.

TUMBLING *See* BRICK.

V-NOTCHING *See* NOTCHING.

VERNACULAR Describes a building that is derived from a traditional, ethnically based knowledge of architectural form, construction, and detailing. Stylistic references are often entirely lacking from vernacular architecture; when they occur they are often stylized or idiosyncratic adaptations of academic prototypes. *See also* ACADEMIC.

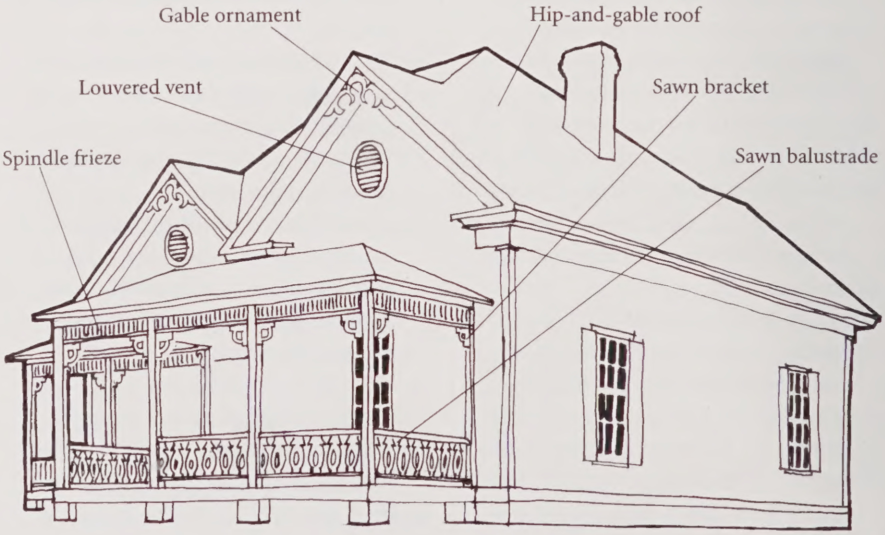
VICTORIAN Used in the text to describe buildings constructed in Lee County during the late 1800s and early 1900s that usually exhibit combinations of the following: asymmetrical composition, complex massing and roof lines, architectural details that distantly reflect medieval prototypes, and the liberal use of machined ornament. Typical Victorian features include hip-and-gable roofs, bay windows, porches supported by chamfered or turned posts with sawn brackets, wood-shingle sheathing, decorative roof vents, and intricate mantels. The Queen Anne style is a form of Victorian styling. Masonry commercial buildings that are Victorian in inspiration often feature decorative parapet brickwork and segmental-arched windows. *Examples:* Pine Knot Farm farmhouse, Francis and Annie W. Deaton House.

VOLUTE A spiral or scrolled motif used in an Ionic or Corinthian capital. *See* ORDER.

VOUSSOIR *See* ARCH.

WAINSCOT Paneling or other wood facing at the base of an interior wall, above the baseboard and below the chair rail.

WEATHERING A canted surface on a

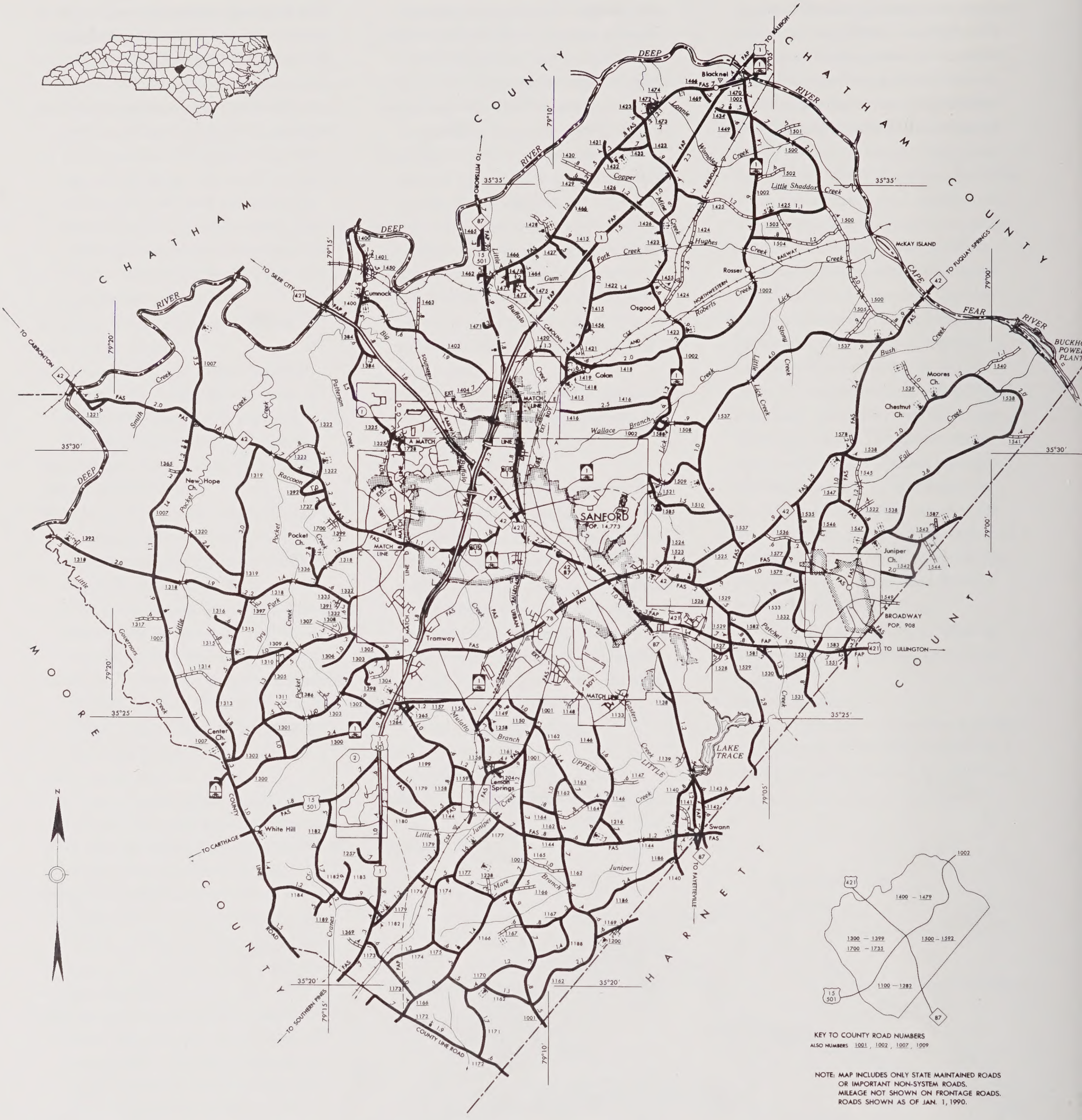

Victorian house

buttress, wall, or chimney shoulder designed to shed water.

WINDER A triangular or wedge-shaped step used to turn a corner in a stair.

WINDOW An opening in a wall that provides light and ventilation to the interior of a building. Most historic Lee County buildings are provided with double-hung sash windows; in the text, the number of panes of glass in each sash is referred to numerically. For example, a window with nine panes in the upper sash and six panes in the lower sash is referred to as a nine-over-six-sash window. A *bay window* projects from the wall of a building and is often made up of several individual windows. Polygonal bay windows of one or more stories in height are associated with Victorian domestic architecture. An *oriel window* is a bay window that projects above ground level. A *Palladian window* (after the sixteenth-century Venetian architect Andrea Palladio) consists of three windows: a central round-arched window flanked by lower square-headed windows.

WRAPAROUND PORCH A porch that extends to two or more sides of a building.



NOTE: MAP INCLUDES ONLY STATE MAINTAINED ROADS
OR IMPORTANT NON-SYSTEM ROADS.
MILEAGE NOT SHOWN ON FRONTAGE ROADS.
ROADS SHOWN AS OF JAN. 1, 1990.

SCALE
1 0 1 2 3 4 MILES
0 0.5 1 MILE
SCALE FOR ENLARGEMENTS

Lee County, North Carolina

Prepared by the North Carolina Department of Transportation
Division of Highways – Planning and Research Branch
in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration

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created a wealth of architecture. Victorian tow houses, Craftsman and Tudor Revival residence churches, schools, factories, and commercial blocks. A detailed catalogue section features these buildings and more. Lee County's special identity is largely the product of this remarkab architectural heritage.

J. DANIEL PEZZONI conducted the architectural inventory on which this publication based in 1991–1992. Formerly an architectura historian with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office, he has completed architectural and historic documentation projects preservation plans, and National Register nominations throughout the eastern United States since 1985. He lives in Virginia with h wife, Leslie Giles, who is also an architectur historian.

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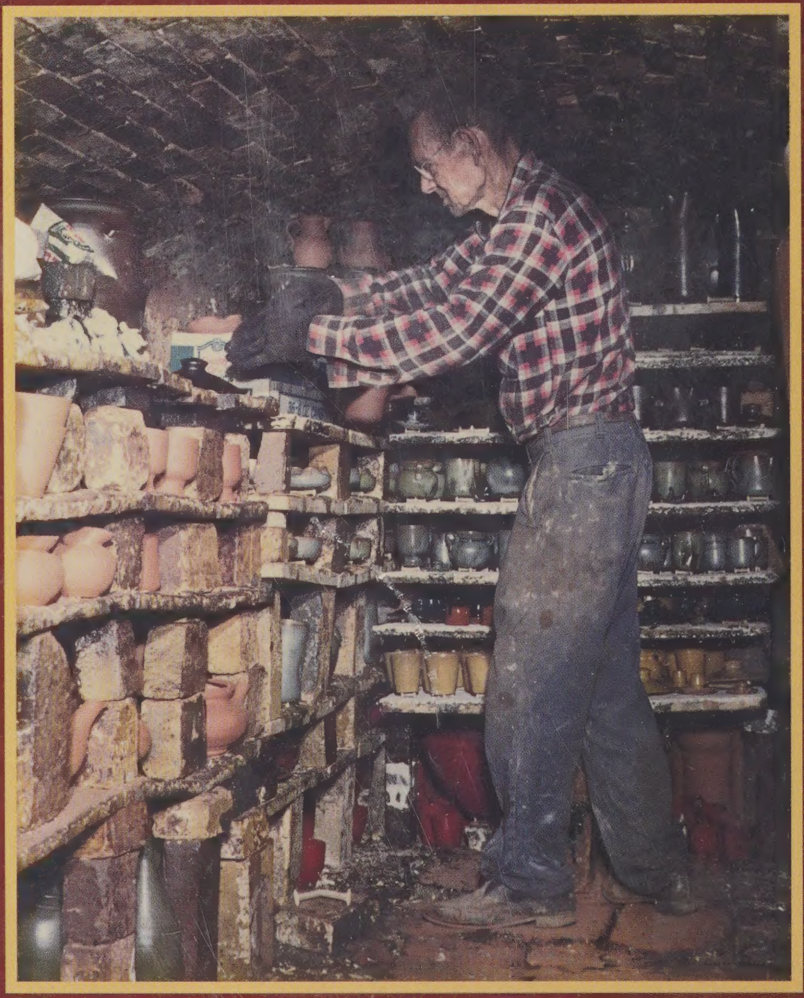

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